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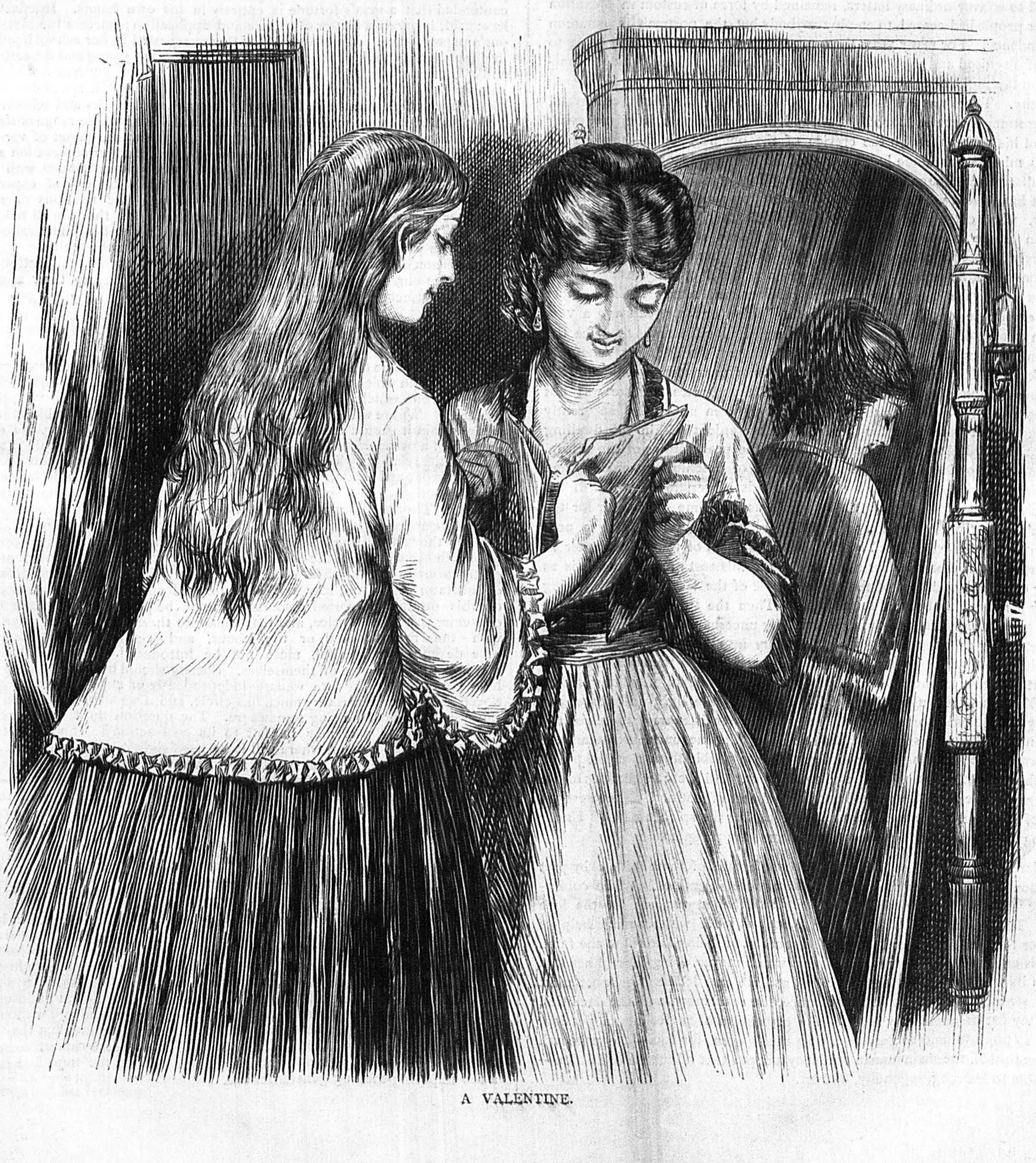
THE VALENTINE.

There is a sad history connected with this picture of "The Valentine." It is one of the last drawings of F. Eltze, who made the sketch shortly before he died, a year ago, for the Illustrated Midland News. Mr. Eltze was a rising artist, and died comparatively young. He drew for *Punch* in Leech's days. His most notable work was "The Table Book," edited by Mark Lemon. It was full of clever sketches. Eltze had full play for his genius, and the result was a collection of drawings of the highest merit. "The Valentine" is a characteristic sketch, though, perhaps, slightly wanting in animation. The girls have risen early in honour of St. Valentine. They have lain in bed listening for the postman's knock, and the letters have been brought up to them by the confidential maid, who is probably reading her own missive on the stairs. In these modern days Valentines have become expensive luxuries. Rimmel is the chief sinner in this direction. He actually shows the wealthy lover Valentines at five and ten guineas each. The interest of the one which is being studied by the girls in our picture has a higher value in their eyes than the value represented by gold and silver.



A VALENTINE.

ST. VALENTINE.

Who shall say we are not a sentimental people? The doings in honour of the feast of Saint Valentine are the national homage we pay to romance. What festival is there, unassociated with a holiday, so well observed? Protest stands no chance against it; ridicule is quite powerless; age and experience make no impression upon it. The custom thrives alike through sunny and cloudy days; alike in times of national sorrow and rejoicing, whether things go prosperously or the reverse. Like the passion which he commemorates, St. Valentine asserts himself entirely without regard to circumstances or conditions. As the years go on he is honoured more and more, not in proportion to the ebb and flow of fashion or superstition, or the changes in public taste or manners, but apparently in strict relation to the increase of population, the advance of the arts of reading and writing, the price of the sort of stationary and productions available for the purposes of this particular branch of correspondence, and the postal facilities furnished by the department of the Government to whom the missives are entrusted.

The fact that the traffic in Valentines has increased immensely with improved postal arrangements shows, perhaps more strongly than any other circumstance that could be cited, how much we are at the mercy of social machinery; for the sentiment of which Valentines are the visible token is one, we know, less open to the external influences of times and customs than any other moral phenomenon, and when it found a recognised mode of asserting itself it would move as far as possible independently of circumstances. It was so with the observances of St. Valentine before the present opportunities existed for the carriage of epistles and parcels, or for the manufacture of Valentines. For the conveyance of these missives to their destination before the days of cheap and easy postage, the resources of ingenuity were never exhausted and were inexhaustible. So much was done in the way of special messengers, and secret and curious ways of getting the article safely to its destination, that modes of despatching Valentines altogether exceptional, and different from the means employed to convey ordinary letters, remained by force of custom in operation long after people had ceased to employ anybody but the postman in common correspondence. For many years the penny post did not prevent the going to and fro of disguised and mysterious deliverers of quaint and curious communications on the night of the thirteenth and the early morning of the fourteenth of February. There was the muffled page, or child, or trusty friend, or servant, knocking strangely at the door after dark, and, like a conspirator, hastily relieving himself of his packet through the crevice of the opening portal—hurrying off when his mission was done lest he should be recognised or seized. There was the discreet messenger, who never gave up his precious burden except into the right hands, and yet managed to remain incognito. There was the daring emissary, who committed a sort of qualified burglary, and placed his letter in some well considered position where it would unexpectedly but surely meet the eye of the one for whom it was intended. And there were the accomplices in the very household of the besieged, who went between the sender and the receiver in some fashion more or less explicable or inexplicable to both. Thirty or forty years ago a very common mode of delivering a valentine in many localities was to place the parcel on the house threshold in the quiet dark hours of the Eve of St. Valentine, to knock at the door, and to get into some place of concealment and watch the safe appropriation of the document by one of the inmates. There was not very much danger of the present miscarrying, even under that apparently unsafe method of delivering, for the young or the ardent within the dwelling were not unmindful of the possibilities and the probabilities of the season. We are all more or less acquainted with the sort of watchfulness, anxiety, and trepidation which take possession of the minds of certain members of the household on the morning of St. Valentine as the time draws near for the postman's first morning delivery; and most of us have been amused to note the unwonted suffering inflicted by the unusual lateness of the letter-carrier in his arrival that day of all days in the year; but this sort of restlessness is as nothing compared with that of the young people of the last generation during the long dark evening before the great day. Then the time during which the unknown messenger might come was wholly uncertain and vague, the possibility extending over the whole evening and late into the night. To-day there is no mistake about the conventional double knock. Then there was no knowing what eccentric method the amateur postman might adopt of making known his stealthy presence outside the portal. There was the light and almost unmeaning tap, intended only to reach the ears of eager listeners there was the knock in imitation of a servant of the house, or of some unimportant arrival, which would excite no inquiry; and there was the pebble thrown at the panel, or the thump that might be attributed to accident. All these indications of the observance of the festival were understood by a sort of instinct. They were the marks of the time. The marks are all different, but the spirit remains. Under all changes of fashion and manners St. Valentine prospers.

Similar shifts are discoverable in the manufacture of these billets by past generations. Without much education there were valentines. While colour-printing was in its infancy there were fancy sentimental pictures for the love traffic. The master passion knew how to express itself without much help of letters or the arts, and found for itself a method of being faithful to the feast. It is this unconquerable force of the spirit which moves along these lines that tells, in its way, so strongly for education, and art, and letters; for what must be the strength of the civilising influence, the machinery, and the facilities, when they can so immensely increase the expression of a feeling, a passion, a fancy so powerful and so universal. So much even for love—the primeval, the ineradicable, the main human tendency independent of culture or fashion—is possible to learning, ingenuity, and art.

TABLE TALK.

Decisions arrived at in literature on speculative points are a very long time taking possession of the general mind. Indeed, we are almost warranted in saying that the work makes no progress. We find an ap example in the question of the relative forces of original character and of outward circumstances in making a man what he is. That thinkers and observers of life, even in the twilight of intellectual culture, should have varied so much in opinion on a point so immediately under their cognizance is something remarkable; but it is more wonderful that the people whom we daily and hourly meet in our own day should, as a rule, neither have formed any judgment on the matter, nor see any reason why they should make up their minds, even to the extent of a qualified opinion. Many abstract questions are hardly ever brought home to us; but it is not so with this one. No man can look at his child and consider how it shall be trained and exercised without practically determining in his own mind a point in the controversy. No one can look at what he is himself, what position he is occupying, what he is doing and appearing before and behind the curtain of private life, without some more or less definite conception of how he has arrived at that point, and some notion of what has been done for him from within and what from without. The fact that these necessities of reflection are so constantly put upon us might be said to contradict the assertion with which we began this paragraph, were it not that the amount of speculation which the facts round about force upon us does not run into any definite result. Over the dinner table your *vis-a-vis* will hold forth on the importance of education and outward influences in the formation of the character of a child, and in the same breath commit himself to the dogma that a man is what he is by nature, and cannot be altered, if in conversation, an example turns up of one who has gone his own gait, and been from childhood to maturity and old age, to all appearance, singularly unaffected by anything the world has done to or for him, We ought not to charge this characteristic of the ordinary observer and conversationalist as a serious allegation against his intelligence, seeing how professed philosophers have differed. Old writers on moral philosophy were poles asunder in doctrine on this question. There have been those who have contended that a man's fortune is entirely in his own hands. Intellect, they have said, is purely a matter of culture and application; success the measure of one's perseverance. We often find the theory repeated in our school books, and in dissertations intended for the encouragement of the young and the ambitious, and it is commonly put without qualification. Children, given or not to speculation beyond their years, may accept the dictum, though it is absolutely upset by the simple fact that the little students' brothers and sisters and schoolfellows have all come into the world differently endowed. The whole range of strength and weakness, dulness, stupidity, and cleverness, the whole gamut of versatility is found in a single class, and the same phenomena lie under observation among men and women through life. The opposite theory is expounded with equal point and unreserve, and fares no better when put to the test of experience. There are several intermediary methods of defining the relations of natural character to education, circumstances and exertion; but they are all held, as a rule, with the same looseness, and upheld and controverted by identical conversationalists with similar inconsistency. In this talk over the table we will not dogmatise on a subject left open in the controversy of the moral philosophers, but content ourselves with asking why people do not make up their minds to occupy a distinct position in relation to the question?

In the discussion of measures of social improvement, people frequently raise up difficulties with which they ought not to concern themselves. Of the hack bugbears, the one which perhaps the most constantly reappears is "supply and demand." We are willing to do this or that unquestionably desirable thing, but we are afraid it should influence the market. It would raise the price of production of a particular article. It would reduce the supply of labour. It would unsettle the relations which subsist between the consumer and the producer, between work and capital, between master and labourer. The Reformers are not always right, but it is rather hard upon them to have to encounter this obstacle. They are bound to meet and controvert all obligations founded upon the nature and constitution of men, and if they would substitute one thing for another they should show that their innovation is not only an improvement, but worth the trouble of the change. But society has no right to place artificial obstructions in the way of its own amendment. The trader, or manufacturer, or cultivator of the soil, may not step forward and say that corn, or apples, or this or that imported commodity, must be placed in the hands of the consumer at a certain price, and that therefore there must be no interference with the raw material, or the labour, and certain restrictions, otherwise desirable or needful, must not be introduced. Supply and demand may be left to take care of themselves. Society should be permitted to set its house in order for its own welfare independently of any such considerations. Social machinery moves very much in a circle, and if we want to make an alteration we must break the ring somewhere. The question most important to be known is, What part may be left to its own action? If we unsettle the movement of the current, where will it get itself right? That point will usually be found in the locality of supply and demand. Get your taxes; get your education; get your recreation; get your reasonable hours of labour—with a politic avoidance of violent interruptions in the order of things—and the markets, like the waters, will settle down to a healthy level, after a little perturbation. Great is the political philosopher who can work his changes with the least possible derangement of the machinery.

Any one may dabble in political economy, not because it is easy, but because it is difficult. One must not dogmatise about the movements of the stars and planets, without acquainting himself with the discoveries of the professors and posting himself up in the latest calculations. We may not philosophise about chemical action, without first ascertaining it modes and results. An algebraic equation cannot be worked out by original reflection. Political philosophy, on the contrary, is the amateur's paradise. There he may ruminate without much fear of being brought to book. He will meet with disputants, but they cannot confute him by rule and line. The doctors of the science cannot correct him if he is only passably careful, and knows how to avoid the traps and snares of a few imposing-looking generalisations.

NOTES ON BOOKS.

SOME years ago when a celebrated German philosopher visited Oxford, he astonished a company of dons who were discussing theology by the exclamation "the devil!" "Have you a devil still in England? Why we have had no devil in Germany for twenty years." The Rev. A. Reville, D.D., might have prefaced his work, "The Devil: His Origin and Decadence" (Williams and Norgate) with this little story; for although the author gives us his Satanic Majesty's biography he does not believe in his existence. The book is a reprint of two lectures delivered at Strasbourg before the war, and it is a very curious and interesting volume.

MR. R. WOOF, the Town-Clerk of Worcester, has done a service to the state in the publication of a little work entitled, "The Personal Expenses of Charles II. in the City of Worcester, 1651." These accounts, Mr. Woof explains, "are comprised in a series of foolscap folio volumes, commencing with the year 1540, from which time they are complete, with the exception of the twenty-two years from 1600 to 1623, and they exhibit the whole revenue and expenditure of the faithful city, as annually audited by the proper civic authorities. These ancient tomes throw much light upon historic events, which have had local effect, as well as upon customs and transactions more peculiarly confined to the citizens and their city, but many searches have been made by historians and antiquaries for information of the eventful period of the Battle of Worcester, without any result beyond a few casual items which possess little direct interest. In another series of records, called "Chamber Orders," possessed by the Corporation of Worcester, entries occur which relate to this stirring time so far as it affected the corporate body, but it is not with these I have now to deal. No doubt many records were abstracted by the troopers of Cromwell, as I find at the audit of 1652:—Items payed Steephen Fields, who had payed to a

> souldier to regayne some of the records that were taken out of the Treasurie . . . . 5s.

The civic state sword also seems to have disappeared, as £5 8s. 6d. was paid in the same year for "the new sword to carry before Mr. Maior." Mr. Woof gives some curious and valuable information concerning the famous battle, the positions of the contending armies, and the course of the fighting. The following interesting notes, for example, are published now for the first time, the Town-Clerk having copied them, by the kind permission of Sir Edmund Lechmere, Bart., from the diary of his ancestor, Nicholas Lord Lechmere, a Baron of the Exchequer:—

August 22, 1651.—friday, the + King wth a numerous army, most Scotts, some English by long uninterrupted marches from Sterling (in Scotland) to Worcester, sodainly possessed himself of the City of Wor^{r}, and in a few daies fortified it beyond imagination. At the same time y^{e} Scotts possessed themselves of (and brake downe) Upton Bridge, Bewdley Bridge, Powick, and Brancefords Bridges.

Aug. 25.—Massie, Major Gen. to y^{e} + King wth about 130 Scottish horse quartered in my house at Hanley, hee treated my people civilly, but threatened extirpation to mee and my posterity, by cause I was ioyned to the army of the p'liam^{t}.

Aug. 27—150 Scotts horse quartered at my house at Hanley.

Aug. 28.—The p'liam^{t} army under the com'and of the Lord Generall Cromwell advanced before Worcester, and at the same time Major Gen. Lambert gained Upton Bridge from the Scotts, in w^{ch} enterprise Massie was wounded, and some few of the enemy slaine.

Aug. 29.—The P'liam^{t} army drew close to the city of Wor^{r}.

Sept. 3, 1651.—It pleased God to give a totall overthrow to this Scottish army by his blessing on the army of the P'liam^{t} of England com'anded by the Lord Generall Cromwell. The battell began on the west side the city (in those very fields where my brother in law, Colonell Edwyn Sandys, the 23 of Sept. 1642, fought with Prince Rupert and receaved the wounds whereof afterwards (1 Dec. 1642) he died, but was ended (and was sharpest) on the east side.

The morning the battell was fought the Generall made a bridge over the river of Severne (a little above Teme Mouth), and another bridge close by over the river of Teme, whereby he passed over his army from side to side as he saw occasion. The battell began about one of the clock, lasted till night. I was present at it in pursuit of the victory. The city of Wor^{c} was taken by storme, and all the wealth in it became booty to the Souldiers."

Students of history, and especially of midland history will thank Mr. Woof for his valuable *brochure*.

THE want of precision in the rules and conclusions of political economy is more generally recognised now than it was formerly. Works used to follow each other with rapidity and regularity, and the study was pursued with a system and a devotion altogether unknown now. The old masters of a few generations ago would be shocked to observe the amateurish manner in which the several branches of the subject are treated; and they would feel that a slight was put upon their labours in the fact that the country's legislators seldom refer to political economy as a science, and hardly once in a Session quote any of its rules or axioms.

THE LAKES AND THE FROST.—The "seven weeks' frost" has caused an excitement of rare occurrence in the Lake district. For some time Windermere resisted the cold, the wind keeping up a movement of the water, preventing freezing, and allowing the steamboat traffic in connection with the railways to go on as usual. On Thursday week, however, the wind dropped, and the Lake became smooth as glass. As if some enormous spider had begun a web, streaks of ice began to shoot across the tranquil waters in strange geometrical forms, so that the fishing boats could scarcely reach home. The steamboat dashed through for one day, but next day was fast as possible in the ice. Then came the skating, dancing, sledging, and walking; the mixture of old, young, grave and gay on the arctic scenery of Bowness Bay, which for 21 years had not presented such a scene of animated ice-land. Derwentwater afforded earlier sport. Deep in the mountains, and of a smaller size, the wind had not the same effect as on Windermere. Dancing, racing, quadrille parties, waltzing, fireworks, and all sorts of enjoyable sports have been held on the on the ice, and Keswick made holyday. Grassmere has been the scene of a narrow escape. A young midshipman named King, though warned, attempted to cross to the island. The ice gave way, and he was immersed. Quartermaster Baldry, by the aid of ladders and ropes, succeeded in saving him, but not until he had been nearly half an hour in the water, hanging by the edge of the broken ice, He became unconscious, but has recovered,

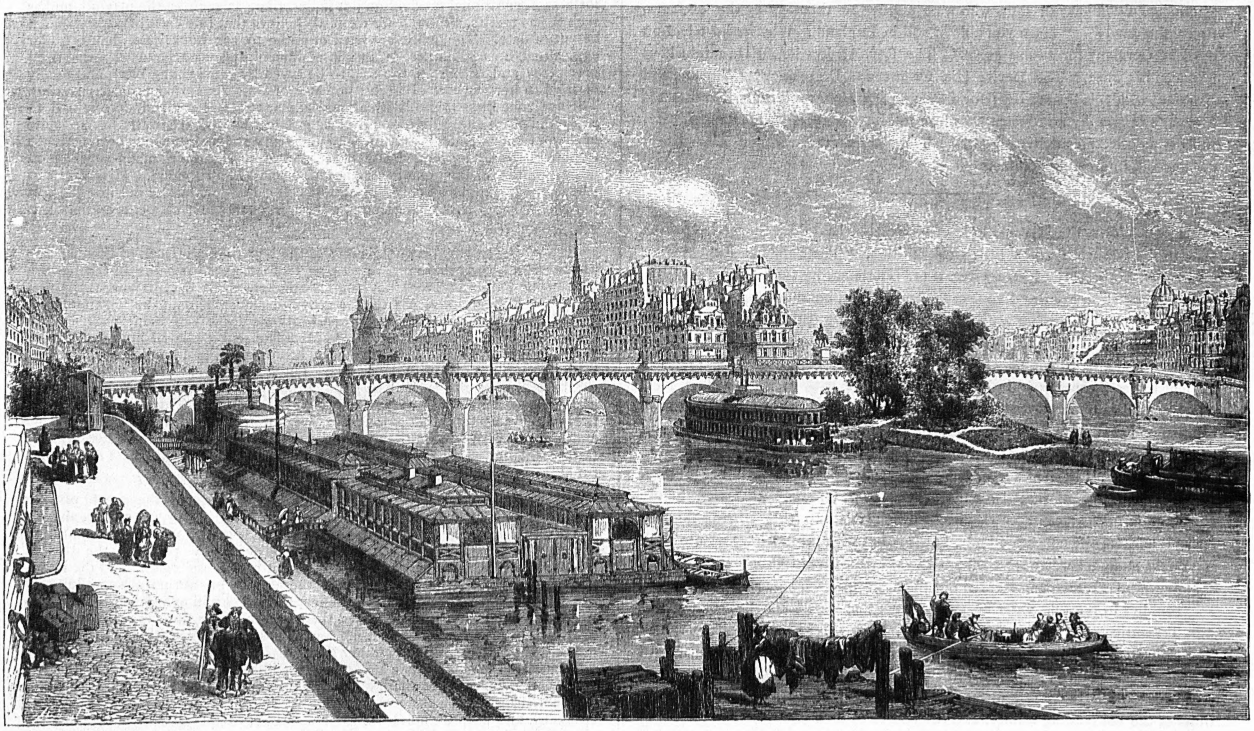
PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

"DEADMAN'S POINT; or, the Lighthouse on the Carn Ruth," a new melodrama by Mr. Burnand, has been produced at the Adelphi Theatre. The work is put forth as a sensational production; it is described as such by the playbill, and as such it has merits, although we earnestly believe that this class of play will soon be out of date. The public are tired of going to see railway accidents, boiler explosions, houses on fire, or insane maidens leaping or being thrown from precipices and falling in the sea, to be saved by some young hero, and finally married to her rescuer. Its reception was of a most amusing and curious kind. The audience hissed, and laughed, and applauded, and seemed determined to enjoy the piece either on account of its good or bad points, or rather in spite of its merits or demerits. It gives scarcely any chance for actor or actress to display histrionic powers, although Mr. and Mrs. Billington made some good points in the characters of Martin Gurder and Mary Polden. Miss Furtado played Janet, the heroine. The author was called for, but he did not deem it prudent to appear. The scenery, although coarse in treatment and taste, is very effective.

MR. W. S. GILBERT is doing some of the best dramatic work of the day. On the London boards there is no new play that deserves the name in comparison with "The Palace of Truth" at the Haymarket. [On Saturday night, by-the-bye, Miss Robertson, rather than a crowded house should be disappointed, played her part as usual, although her brother's death was being published in the evening papers at the time. Had Miss Robertson obeyed her own feelings "The Palace of Truth" could not have been played, and hundreds would have been disappointed if not dissatisfied]. Putting this great work aside, for it is a great work, what else is there as good, as happy in thought, and as humorous as "A Sensation Novel" at the Gallery of Illustration? Then again, excepting the two plays named, what among the pieces now being played is more amusing and more cleverly written than "Randall's Thumb" at the Royal Court? These three comedies, all by the author of the "Bab Ballads," are the best new things running.

SINCE our last publication death has snatched away the most popular dramatist of the day. Mr. Robertson had been ill for some time, and his friends suffered great anxiety, although they believed his vigorous constitution would, at least postpone, if not overcome, the destructive power of the disease. Of late he rallied in a marvellous manner, but he fell off again, and died suddenly on Friday night. Nowadays, there is by no means a superfluity of dramatic authors of originality and fancy, and we can ill afford to lose one who possessed these gifts, and who used them without ever shocking his audience or disgracing the stage to which he was so ardently attached. Mr. Robertson's father was an actor, and his mother an actress, and both were well known in the provinces—at Lincoln especially, where they held, we believe, the old theatre. Mr. Robertson's sister Madge is now one of the first artists in London. Another sister, whose stage name is Miss Brunton, is in Mr. Young's comedy company, and has won much distinction in the provinces. Several brothers are also playing in provincial towns. Mr. Robertson, sen., was the manager of an important theatrical circuit, and as might have been expected, young Tom Robertson joined the profession; but he was never a good actor, and this he has often declared himself. In his leisure time, during his peregrinations from town to town, he attempted play writing, but could get nothing accepted. He still persisted in his endeavours, however, until he succeeded in getting a farce entitled *The Cantab* produced at the Strand in 1861. Mr. Robertson, throughout his tedious acting life, was not idle. He worked hard at translating, and no doubt Mr. Lacy's bookshelves would bring to light many plays translated by him from French originals, which were from time to time acted at the east end of London. Tired of his acting life and of wandering about from one town to another, Mr. Robertson determined to leave the stage and live by light literature, and with this resolve he went to London in 1860. He soon found a market for his clever and charming writing. He dabbled in journalism of all kinds. Ten years ago the author of "Caste" was editing a mining journal, for which paper he wrote a novel, and subsequently dramatised it under the title of "Shadow Tree Shaft." He contributed to the best periodicals of his time, and in the midst of never-ending periodical and newspaper writing, he constantly wrote plays, which were as constantly rejected. "Society" was at the Haymarket for months, and was eventually sent back, to the great disappointment of the author, although it would have no doubt been a failure had it been produced at this theatre. In 1864 came better fortune. "David Garrick" (an adaptation from a French piece called "Sullivan,") was bought and produced. The Prince of Wales's Theatre was opened in the following year by Mr. Byron and Miss Marie Wilton, and, after the theatre had been opened for a long time, Mr. Byron determined to give his old friend a chance. Mr. Robertson was allowed full liberty to manage his play. A new and clever company was procured; and, after a preliminary rehearsal at Liverpool, "Society" was produced at the Prince of Wales, and its author took a great step forward. There was something so new, and fresh, and charming in the style, and the artists were so clever, that the Prince of Wales's and Mr. Robertson were spoken of in all quarters. He knew exactly the capabilities of his company, and he did his work accordingly. "Society" was followed by "Ours" in 1866, "Caste" in 1867 (certainly his best work, and one which must be popular under any circumstances), "Play" in 1868, "School" in 1869, and "M.P." in 1870. Mr. Robertson's career at the Prince of Wales's was unchequered. The audience would listen to no one else. Mr. Boucicault and Mr. Edmund Yates both tried to compete with the popular Prince of Wales's author, but unsccessfully. At other theatres Mr. Robertson was naturally sought after. He has given "Home" to the Haymarket, "Dreams" to the Gaiety, "For Love" to the Holborn, "Shadow Tree Shaft" to the Princess's, "A Rapid Thaw" and "War" (his last work) to the St. James's; and he has written several plays, such as "Birth" and "The Passion Flowers," which have only been acted in the provinces. Mr. Robertson also wrote the libretto to an opera by Mr. F. Clay, called "Constance," which was produced at Covent Garden, and an entertainment for the German Reeds, called "A Dream of Venice."

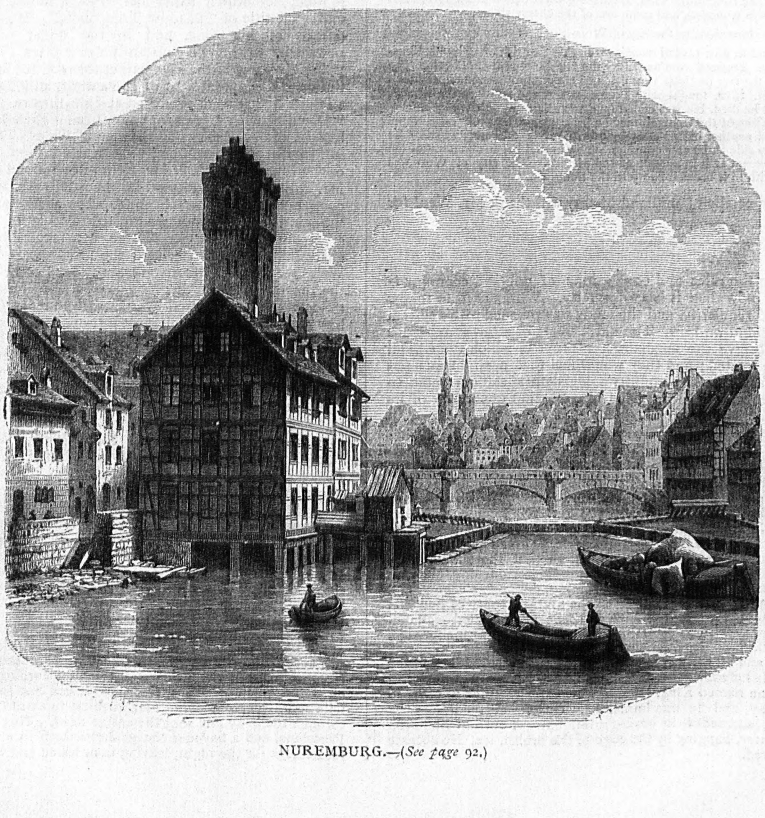
The *Progres de Chalons-sur-Saone* gives the following account of the capture of the Prussian flag before Dijon:—"The column of the enemy was 3,000 strong, and the Garibaldians were about four hundred. Just as they were about being surrounded they made their way into an animal charcoal factory close by, barricaded themselves, and kept up a rapid fire, inflicting heavy losses on the Prussians. However, the position became critical, but fortunately reinforcements arrived. At this moment the flag of the 61st Prussian Regiment was captured, and two accounts are given of this occurrence. According to one it was taken by a mobilised soldier of our department, and according to the other, Ricciotti Garibaldi, on coming out of the factory, perceived not far off the Prussian commandant, followed by the ensign, and rushing to meet them, ran the officer superior through the body and shot the ensign dead. This was the signal for the rout of the Prussians, and a bayonet charge drove them into the wood of Asnieres, where they took refuge for the night, leaving their killed and wounded on the field."



PONT NEUF, PARIS.

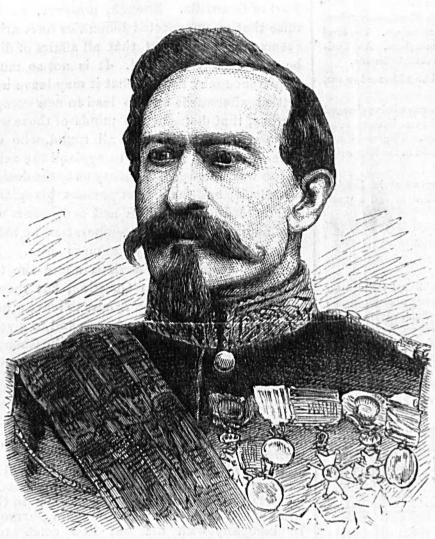
PONT NEUF, PARIS.

THE fine bridge illustrated above was begun by Ducesceau, under Henry III., who laid the first stone on May 31, 1578, and was finished in 1604 under Henry IV., who continued it at his own expense, under the direction of Marchand. It was reconstructed and lowered in 1852. It consists of two parts. The northern one contains seven circular arches, the southern one only five. Its total length is 1,020 feet, and its breadth 78. It has semicircular seats, and forty-two ornamental lamp posts. On the square area, at the junction of the two parts of the bridge, a bronze statue of Henry IV was erected by his widow, Marie de Médicis. Her father, Cosmo de Médicis, had sent her a bronze horse for this purpose, and a figure of the king to sit it was cast in France. This statue was destroyed in 1792; and on its site Napoleon intended to erect a magnificent granite obelisk of the height of 200 feet, when the events of 1814 put an end to the project. In 1818, the present statue, cast by order of Louis XVIII., and paid for by public subscription, was inaugurated with much ceremony. The model was made by Lemot, and the statute itself formed out of several others, including those of Napoleon and Desaix, was cast by Piggiani. The height of this beautiful statute is 14 feet, its weight 30,000 pounds, and it cost 337,860 francs. The pedestal is of white marble, bearing the following inscription:—"Henrici Magni, paterno in populum animo notissimi principis, sacram effigiem, civiles inter tumuitus, Gallia indignate, dejectum, post optatum Ludovici XVIII. reditum ex omnibus ordinibus cives ære collato restituerunt. Necnon et elogium cum effigie simul oblitum lapidi rursus inscribi curaverunt. D.D. die xxv. mens.: Aug. M.D. XVIII." On the opposite end is the following inscription, copied from the pedestal of the former statue:—"Enrico IV., Galliarum Imperatori Navar. R. Ludovicus XIII. Filius ejus opus inchoatum et intermissum, peo dignitate pietutis et imperii plenius et amplius absolvit. Emin. D.C. Richelius commune votum populi promovit. Super illustr. viri De Bullion, Boutillier P. ærarii F. faciendum curaverunt M.D.C. XXXV." Bas reliefs adorn the sides of the pedestal. In one Henry IV. is seen commanding food to be distributed to the inhabitants of Paris, who, during the siege of the capital, had taken refuge in his camp; in the other, the king, entering as a conqueror, stops in the Parvis de Notre Dame, and orders the provost of Paris to bear his message of peace to the inhabitants. Underneath the pedestal, at its foundation, was placed a magnificent copy of the *Henriade* of Voltaire. Behind the statue, a double branched flight of stairs leads to the Seine.

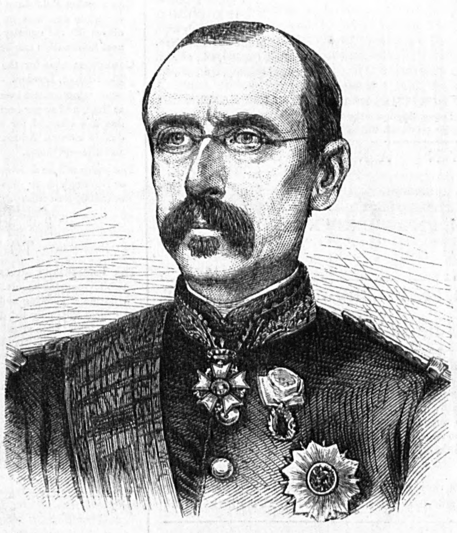


NUREMBURG.—(*See page* 92.)

HOW THE "TIMES" WAS SENT INTO PARIS.—Attempts to establish a ready communication between the beleaguered inhabitants of Paris and their relatives and friends beyond the German lines have given rise to many contrivances which are not unlikely to make a new era in the history both of aeronautics and photography. Among them may be mentioned the ingenious device by which the matter of two whole pages of the *Times* has been transmitted from London to Paris. This has been accomplished by photography. Those pages of the paper which contain communications to relatives in Paris were photographed with great care by the London Stereoscopic and Photographic Company on pieces of thin and almost transparent paper, about an inch and a half in length by an inch in width. On these impressions there could be seen by the naked eye only two legible words, *The Times*, and six narrow brown bands representing the six columns of printed matter forming a page of the newspaper. Under the microscope, however, the brown spaces become legible, and every line of the newspaper was found to have been distinctly copied, and with the greatest clearness. The photographs were sent to Bordeaux for transmission thence by carrier pigeon to Paris. When received there they were magnified, by the aid of the magic lantern, to a large size and thrown upon a screen. A staff of clerks immediately transcribed the messages, and sent them off to the places indicated by the advertisers.—*Times*.



GENERAL BOURBAKI.

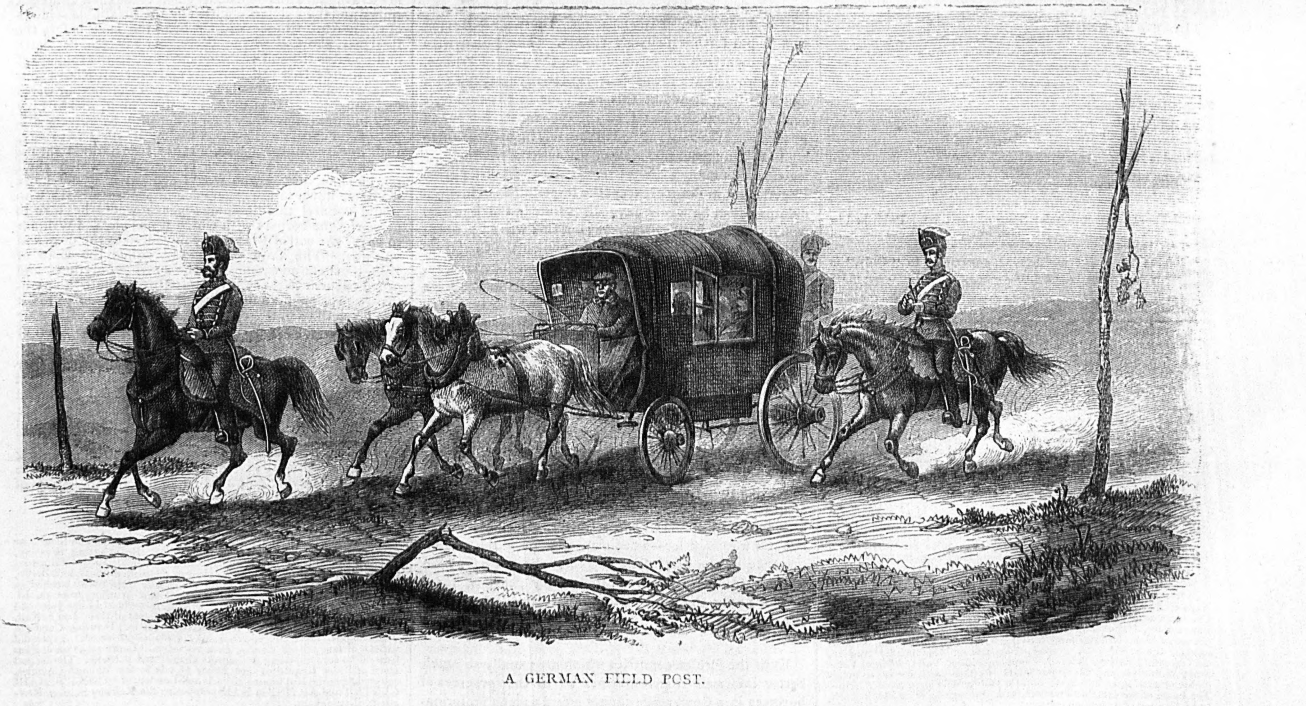


GENERAL FAIDHERBE.

THE RIVER DARRO.

GUSTAVE DORE'S sketch on page 92 will give the reader some idea of romantic Spain. The Darro (which runs by that wonderful palace the Alhambra, illustrated in our last number) rises from the hill of myrtles, near Huetor, and approaches Granada under the Monte Sacro, a hill so called from the finding of certain sacred bones and relics, to which are attributed the sweetness and fertilising quality of the stream. The walks on both sides of this swift Darro up this hill are delicious. The stream gambols down the defile; hence its Arabic name Hadaroh, from Hadar, "rapidity in flowing." The Romans called the river Solon. Gold is found in the bed; whence some wiseacres catching at sound, have derived the name Darro, *quasi dat aurum*, and in 1526 a crown was given to Isabel, wife of Charles V., made from *diminute nuggets* found in this Pactolus. Here amphibious gold-fishers still puddle in the eddies, earning a hard and miserable livelihood in groping for poor diggings; *nugæ difficiles*. The gorge through which it flows under the Generalife was the Haxoriz, or "Garden of Recreation," of the Moors, and was studded with villas. The Darro after washing the base of the Alhambra (as shown in our engraving last week), flows under the *Plaza nueva*, being arched over, and when swelled by rains there is always much risk of its blowing up this covering. The Moorish Zacatin is as antique as the Spanish Plaza nueva is modern. In summer it is covered with an awning, *toldo*, which gives a cool and tenty look. Go, without fail, ye artists, to the back part, the *respaldos*, and sketch the Prout-like houses and toppling balconies, so old that they seem only not to fall. Think of what Dore has done in Spain; take "Don Quixote" under your arm, and go and do likewise. Here is every form and colour of picuresque poverty. Vines clamber up the irregularities, while below naiads dabble, washing their red and yellow garments in the all-gliding glorious sunbeams. The Darro reappears at the end of its career at the "Carrera," and then marries itself to the Xenil. This the Singilis of the Romans, the Shingil of the Moors—flows from the Serra Nevada through a most alpine country. The waters composed of melted snow, are unwholesome, as, indeed, are most of those of Granada, which have a purgative tendency. The Moorish poets, who saw in the Xenil the life-blood of the Vega, the element of wealth, compared its waters to "melted gold flowing between emerald banks." Why should Cairo boast of her Niles, since Granada has a *thousand* Niles?

GERMAN COUNSELS FOR MODERATION.—The *Cologne Gazette*, remarking on the prospect of peace, says:—"Every thinking and intelligent man who can raise himself above the excitement of the moment must cherish the wish that the conditions of peace should not be excessively hard for France, but such that a durable peace between two great civilised nations may be at least possible and conceivable. We have a remarkable precedent. From 1792 till 1815, nearly 23 years without interruption, the French and English fought by land and sea with the greatest exasperation, and they had for centuries to regard themselves as hereditary enemies. England was deemed the Power which gained the last great victory at Waterloo, after having been always victorious at sea. Revenge for Waterloo was regarded for years and tens of years as the innermost idea of French policy, and yet the old national hatred has by degrees almost entirely disappeared. This may possibly, at any rate, be the case between Germans and French if on both sides moderation gains the victory. . . . May the armistice prove, as in 1866, the forerunner of peace! To this end that wise moderation is necessary of whom the venerable King John of Saxony speaks so beautifully in his letter to the Emperor at Versailles, for, in spite of immense and wonderful successes, we will not at this critical moment be drawn into a belief that the power of resistance of France is already utterly destroyed. Despair doubles strength, and we do not wish to drive the French to desperation. Let us think of Spain. How inferior in every respect was the Spain of 1808 to the France of to-day; and yet it offered in 1808-13 to Napoleon at the height of his power and to his most famous Marshals a permanent resistance. The Emperor William's head is encircled with laurels; let him now remember that the first and greatest of all the Cæsars is not more famous and honoured on account of all his victories that on accouut of his conciliation and lenity." The article advocates as the basis of peace the restoration of all the really German territory which the French have in the course of time taken from Germany.



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THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS is now an established medium for public announcements. It combines with a first-class country circulation a growing and not unimportant London Sale. With a view to meet the increased demand for the paper, special publishing offices have been opened at 102, Fleet-street, in addition to those in Birmingham. THE ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS may now fairly claim to be regarded by London Advertisers not only as a country but a London paper. Arrangements are being made for a Special Supplement in commemoration of the marriage of the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne.

Illustrated Midland News.

JEBRUARY 11, 1871.

THERE seems every prospect of a stormy session. The present Ministry has disappointed even its strongest supporters. Many persons think that Mr. Gladstone will be compelled to resign. Whether the result would be a Coalition or a Conservative Government, is doubtful. For our own part, we are rather inclined to think that the Liberal majority will hang together in sufficient force to secure Mr. Gladstone in any emergency. Nevertheless, we shall have a stormy and exciting session. European complications, the condition of our army, and the reform of our military system, will give rise to grave and important debates; and with a past history so unfortunate in foreign affairs, and a future so threatening, the Ministry will find its critics and opponents in great force and power.

THE fate of France and the peace of Europe hang in the balance. All the world awaits the issue of the appeal to the electoral constituencies of the defeated and yet not dishonoured nation. M. Gambetta, mindful of the strong Imperial and other anti-republican elements among the population, made a bold stroke for the triumph of his principles, but it was too bold and it failed. With true Republican zeal—which, like the Roman church, looks to the end rather than to the means he would have gagged the opposition. In the whole country he would not have allowed to go to the Assembly one single representative who had ever been sent to the Corps Legislatif as a supporter of Imperialism. There is no denying that he put forth a plausible reason. The Bonapartes and Bonapartism are responsible for the woes of France, and he would have the supporters of the dynasty fall with and hide their heads at this sad hour in the country's destiny. Gambetta has done so much for the honour of France since the battle of Sedan that it is impossible not to try to take a favourable view of his actions, wild and extravagant as many of them are. If there were little or no Imperialism in France, except the Imperialism of the candidates whom he would have disqualified, the injustice would not have been very severe; but this was an attempt rather to gag the electors than to punish the Conservative candidates, and that was inadmissible. The Government at Paris has overruled the rash proclamation from Bordeaux, and this will be, in spite of the extraordinary circumstances, a remarkably free election. The millions of voters cannot fail to be sensible of the great responsibility which rests upon them, and they will vote honestly, and with unexampled earnestness of purpose. Those who know the country best believe that, so far as the elections represent political feeling, the returns will be upon the whole anything but favourable to Republicanism. But that will hardly be the issue: the people will feel that the question of peace or war is submitted to them, and this can scarcely fail to override all other considerations. In the face of Count Bismarck's bitter and cruel terms we can hardly expect—and scarcely know how to hope for—a decision in favour of the discontinuance of the war. The last eight months have seen many extraordinary events, but none, perhaps, more extraordinary than the General Election of 1871 in France.

EVEN the foreign countries which are usually so much better informed than ourselves as to the progress of business in a Conference cannot afford us much information of what is doing under the Chairmanship of the Earl of Granville. Enough, however, we learn to surmise that no unexpected difficulties have arisen. There seems reason to expect that all affairs of difference will be comfortably adjusted. It is not so much what the Conference may do, as what it may leave undone, to be settled afterwards and to lead to new complications in Europe, that disturbs the minds of those who stand by and watch. The neutrals all round, who were at one time so strongly disposed to applaud the acts of Prussia in the war, have grown uneasy as to the designs of Count Bismarck; and the Count pursues his plan, sublimely indifferent to the opinions and sentiments of the world. The applause of his contemporaries he made light of; their displeasure only amuses him. Englishmen generally are not very anxious about the terms of adjustment of the Eastern Question, but they will expect our Minister for Foreign Affairs to leave other questions in a fair way of settling down, and to give no countenance to any ambitious designs of the Chancellor of the German Empire—now again, as he was a few years ago, the best hated man in Europe.

THE famous or notorious Rigby Wason, whom the world knows because of his deadly feud with Chief Baron Kelly, and the long law suits in which the great advocate and judge was so completely victorious over his persistent opponent, is found now in the ranks of what is known as the "Birmingham Currency School." In company with the not less celebrated Edmund Taunton, he appeared at the Masonic Hall in Birmingham on Tuesday afternoon, and delivered a lecture on our monetary laws to an audience of about twenty people. He appears to have confined his attention to one or two branches of a question which, in the hands of Mr. Taunton, is a very large one indeed, seeing that the great currency doctor advocates a theory the effect of which is in the main; that if the Government could but be induced to issue an unlimited quantity of paper money, everybody would be well off. In a brief report of the proceedings in a Birmingham paper, the lecturer is described as "Mr. Rigby Wason, late M.P. for Ipswich." The reporter, probably, had the full title from the gentleman himself, who still looks back with pride upon his parliamentary career; but as it is more than thirty years since Mr. Wason was M.P. for Ipswich, the dignity is getting rather old, and the title ought to be barred by the statute of limitations.

PROCLAMATION OF GARIBALDI.—The General commanding the Army of the Vosges to the inhabitants of the Cote d'Or:—"Summoned by the Government of the Republic for the defence of your fine country, I ask your co-operation. Do you not believe that what we do, being ten, we should do much better were we a hundred? Do you not believe that, driving the enemy out in twenty days, you will suffer less than in driving him out in twenty months? It is useless to think of it if you repose confidence in the works of the priest, who has no country, and who to-day pays court to William, the new Chief of the Holy Empire, of the old rubric, throne and altar, that is to say, chief of the impostors and brigands. Useless also to listen to the rich and powerful, of whom the greater part enervated by 20 years of luxury, and accustomed to live in extravagance and debauchery, fear to see their chateaux ruined and their cellars emptied by the insatiable soldiers of the north. France will not bend the knee before the foreigner, above all when the foreigner ravages, desolates and pollutes the soil of the country, when the soldiers of despotism destroy your harvests and your cattle, burn your villages, soil your domestic hearths, and violate your wives and daughters. It is useless to think of it, and to give way to hopes of peace, which could only be slavery disguised. Peace, as Bismarck wishes it—that is to say, with France on her knees, France transformed into a province of the holy Empire of Germany, which shall not be done, and he who would counsel it would hand his name down to the execration of posterity. He who would counsel this infamous peace would be torn to pieces as the corpses with which it has pleased William to cover the soil of France are devoured by the dogs and vultures. The Cote d'Or, justly called the Cote of Iron, must set an example to the sister populations, and prove to them that the invaders only devastate the countries whose population have not the courage to resist and drive them out. You have honoured me with your confidence, and I count upon you as upon the steel of the weapons of our brave troops.—G. GARIBALDI."

"THE GARB OF OLD GAUL."—An Inverness paper states that it has now been definitely arranged that Lord Lorne is to wear at his wedding the full Highland costume. Several well-known houses in Edinburgh are at present busily engaged in making for the "youthful marquis a magnificent specimen of the garb of old Gaul." No stone ornaments are to be introduced; the mounting will entirely consist of gold, richly chased—every piece of jewellery having engraved on it besides the arms of the noble house of Argyll.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

THEATRICAL WIGS, WHISKERS, &c.—The Largest Stock in Town, or Sale or Hire. Private Wigs from 10s. to 100s. Hair Cutting, Brushing, and Shampooing, charge 6d. Immediate attendance. Respectful attention by first-class Men from the best houses of London, Paris, and Berlin. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn,* and *Vulcanite,* from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New-street, Birmingham. [591

THE WAR.

War has not yet ceased, and unless Prussia modifies the "terms of peace," the past fighting may only be the preliminary canter to the real struggle—the prologue to a bloody play yet to be enacted. It is doubtful whether there have been terms of peace offered at all. A Berlin correspondent says they are mere newspaper speculations, and that the importance which has been attached to them in England only raises a smile. The real terms are evidently not known, but there is no doubt they will be onerous.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* with the Crown Prince of Prussia sends an interesting account of his visits to Forts Issy and Vanvres, and his report corrects some exaggerated opinions which have found currency. Thus of Fort Issy, against which the German fire was directed in an especial manner, and which was supposed at one time to have been "shut up," he says that the destruction of the barracks is almost all that the bombardment has effected. None of the casemates have been entered by shells; none of the magazines have been touched; and though several guns have been disabled, the greater part of them could have been fired up to the last moment had the French chosen to fire. There is a small breach in the curtain of the southern front, just enough to indicate what might have been done with time and perseveranee. As a whole, however, the fort is less injured than most people at a distance had supposed. Its guns can never have been silent from inability to fire. Battered as Fort Issy was, it might have cost the Germans much trouble and loss to capture. Up to the moment of its surrender, it may be said to have been impregnable by a *coup de main*. Fort Vanvres was even less damaged than Fort Issy; the barracks, though riddled through and through, have escaped being burnt, and there is no commencement of a breach in the curtain on the south front. Fort Vanvres is a strong place, in good condition, well supplied with means of defence, and no sane commander would have thought of attempting to storm it on the strength of what had been done to it by the German guns.

A Bordeaux telegram dated Feb. 5, says nothing whatever is known here of the news sent from Brussels to the English papers, declaring that the Bordeaux Delegation has had its power annulled by the Paris Government. So far from that being the case the Delegation is in full and regular operation; everybody obeys it here, and in the departments preparations for the elections are everywhere being made in accordance with the Bordeaux decree. Emmanuel Arago, who has arrived from Paris, no doubt brings messages with him, but does not interfere with the Government here. Jules Simon has neither the intention nor the power to act with energy, as the reactionary papers urge him, against the Bordeaux Government, in virtue of the unlimited powers he brings with him. He is very much broken down; he no longer recognises old friends, and complains of loss of memory.

Lille, Arras, Dorai, and the north of France generally, are against Gambetta's electoral decree. M. Dorian has been appointed *ad interim* Minister of Public Works during the absence of M. Magnin.

Paris is quiet and disheartened; there are no signs of disorder or disunion. The population accuses the Government of the National Defence of not having displayed sufficient vigour, and of not having consulted the people with regard to the capitulation. It is asserted that neither the members of the Government, nor any "Red" or Imperialist candidate have any chance of being returned. The list of candidates brought forward by the "Conciliatory Party" appears to meet with the most favour among the inhabitants. General Ducrot and M. Cernuschi have declined to present themselves as candidates for the National Assembly. The officers belonging to the regular army and to the Mobile Guard are eligible, and if returned will not be prisoners of war. The Socialists have started a journal called *Le Vengeur*. M. Delescluze has been released for want of evidence. Messrs. Piazza and Brunel, charged with being concerned in a military conspiracy with the object of preventing the surrender of Paris on the 28th ult., have been brought before the magistrates, but have been remanded *sine die*. They, however, remain in custody.

The Berlin correspondent ot ths *Telegraph* transmits a report, without vouching for its currency—that the terms actually demanded of France by the Germans will be less onerous than those recently published. The demand for pecuniary indemnity, it is said, will be more in accordance with the financial circumstances of France, and may possibly not exceed a single milliard (£40,000,000). By the same account, no ships of war will be required, or, if any are taken, the value will be deducted from the indemnity. As for the territorial part of the claim, only Alsace and Lorraine would be demanded. Nothing, however, is known for certain as to the terms of peace; and none of the statements yet put forth are based upon authority.

For Table Delicacies, Desserts, &c., "Sea Moss Farine" is the most healthful, economical, convenient, and delicious food in the world. A Shilling Packet will produce *Sixteen Quarts* of Blanc Mange, Custard Pudding, Charlotte Russe, Floating Island, &c. Sea Moss Farine is in a far more concentrated form than Corn Flours, Maizena, and other farinaceous or gelatinous articles. Its cheapness, wholesomeness, and simplicity of preparation will commend it to all Hotels, Families, and Restaurants. Sold by all Chemists and Grocers. Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn, London. [21

Pancakes.—Shrove Tuesday, 21st February.—We have often eaten Pancakes, in the expectation that they would be possessed of that *delicious* taste which their very name seems to conjure into the mouth. But we have as often been disappointed, either from the ingredients of which they were made not being of the proper kind, or not duly proportioned. To make Pancakes, take of Borwick's Baking Powder—indispensable—one teaspoonful, and add it to half a pound of flour, seasoned with a little salt. Mix these well, in a dry state, and then add an egg, well beaten up with sufficient milk to make a thin batter.—Fry at once, with lard or butter.

Holloway's Pills.—The Greatest Wonder of Modern Times.—They correct biliousness, prevent flatulency, cleanse the liver, and purify the system, renovate the debilitated, strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite, invigorate the nerves, promote health, and reinstate the weak in an ardour and vivacity never before experienced. The sale of these Pills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, convincing the most sceptical that Holloway's Pills transcend all other medicine for removal of disease of every name. They are indeed a blessing to the afflicted, and a boon to those who suffer from any disorder, internal or external. Thousands of persons have testified that by their use alone they have been restored to health after all other remedies had proved unsuccessful.

INCIDENTS OF THE WEEK.

Liverpool has been visited by a severe westerly gale, which continued throughout Sunday night and the early part of Monday morning. Among other consequent accidents to shipping reported, considerable damage was sustained by the gunboat in attendance upon Her Majesty's guard-ship Resistance, stationed in the Mersey. The Orchis, screw steamer, from Liverpool to Bombay, came into collision with the steamer Denmark on Saturday night. She had not proceeded more than 20 miles from Holyhead when she was found to be leeking considerably, and she was forthwith brought back to the Mersey and beached near Tranmere.

The rumour that Count von Beust intends shortly to resign office is authoritatively contradicted.

The Danish schooner Diana was recently wrecked a few miles north of Montrose. The crew were rescued by the lifeboat Mincing-lane, which went out in a terrific sea and took the men to Montrose. When the character of this service is considered, against the specially dangerous seas which in on shore gales of wind break wildly on the bars of all rivers on so exposed a coast, and the long distance of twelve miles on a lee shore which had to be traversed, it will be readily conceived that it would be difficult to speak in too high terms of the noble courage and hardihood of the brave fellows by whom it was performed.

Lord Justice Mellish has recovered from his late severe attack of gout.

We are glad to learn that the health of the Duke of Marlborough is improving.

The Paris *Liberte* of the 4th inst. states that M. Dorian has announced his intention to withdraw provisionally from the treaty of commerce with England.

The *Edinburgh Courant* states that it has been proposed by the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Scotland to request the Earl of Dalhousie to accept a testimonial in acknowledgment of the high respect in which he is held by the masonic craft, and of the many distinguished services he has rendered to Freemasonry during nearly half a century. A very influential committee has been formed, of which the Earl of Rosslyn is chairman.

The Sultan is not to take on board her powder and shot in the Medway, but at Portsmouth.

Dr. Hopkinson, of Trinity, the senior wrangler, has won the first of the mathematical prizes founded by the late Dr. Robert Smith. Mr. Temperley, of Queen's, who was bracketed third wrangler, won the second prize.

The cotton operatives are determined to secure a reform in their working hours. At a meeting of delegates held in Manchester, a resolution was passed to continue the agitation to obtain the Saturday half-holiday, and for withholding as yet any application to Parliament for a compulsory measure. An amendment to the effect that a bill be at once introduced to compel the masters to close their mills at noon on Saturday was negatived. The reports as to the progress of the movement are considered satisfactory.

The Oxford crew went twice to Iffley and back on Monday. As Mr. Benson was suffering from indisposition, Mr. Woodhouse held the rudder-lines. The practice of the crew was restricted to paddling and short spurts, not exceeding 30 strokes per minute. They will go into strict training on the 22nd of February (Ash-Wednesday), which will give the president another fortnight to make any changes he may find beneficial. The Cambridge crew were also out on Monday, and are reported to have done remarkably well. It is thought that the race will take place in the last week of March, though the precise day will probably not be settled until the crews come to their London training quarters.

The *British Medical Journal* states that the German army has already lost above 150 medical officers.

The Chatham correspondent ot a contemporary writes that, consequent on the disclosures which have been made during the trials of the ships' stewards, the Admirality have decided on effecting a sweeping alteration in the nature of the duties now discharged by stewards in the Royal Navy, which will prevent the possibility of similar frauds being practised for the future.

The Lincolnshire sheep breeders are reported to have sustained heavy losses during the winter, and keep has been very scarce owing to the general failure of the turnip crops. The wheat crops are looking well, the late frost and snow having cleared them of the wire-worm. Ploughing operations for spring corn are retarded by the wet weather.

A Bombay telegram states that Syud Toorkee's forces have captured the city of Muscat.

Mr. Hughes, M.P., on Monday gave his decision on the wages dispute in the North of England iron trade. The evidence was laid before him by both masters and men last week at Darlington, when both sides bound themselves in connection with the board of Arbitration to abide by the hon. gentlemen's decision. The masters claimed a reduction of 10 per cent. on wages for 1871, the causes alleged being the depression of trade caused by the war. Mr. Hughes has granted a reduction of 6d. per ton on the wages paid to puddlers. and of 5 per cent. on the wages paid to other workmen, the reduction to take effect from January 1.

The *Daily News* understands that Vice-Admiral Sir Spencer Robinson, K.C.B., is about to retire from the office of Controller of the Navy, and that he will be succeeded by Captain Robert Hall, R.N., Captain-Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard. Captain Boys, of her Majesty's ship *Excellent*, will probably succeed Captain Robert Hall.

Policeman Chas. Waite, 32, Hosier-lane, Smithfield, says: Dec, 13, 1868.—"Last June, my left knee swelled and pained me so I could not use it. My physician treated me for rheumatism, and in three weeks pronounced it cured. But as soon as I went on duty the pain and swelling returned, laying me up nearly four months. I then, as advised, tried Davis's Pain Killer, and in four days went on duty, and have been well ever since."

GOSSIP.

What has become of Gustave Dore is still a question that cannot be answered. It is said he is in Paris and safe. We have every reason to believe the work he has been engaged upon in conjunction with Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, descriptive of some of the marvels of London, is in hand, and will appear when the war fever shall have somewhat abated. The artist will throw a lot of romance into his sketches of the Thames, and with the assistance of a careful and observant writer such as Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, we shall no doubt have a most valuable work. In London there is no end to the themes for artists and authors; no one will ever be able to reveal half its mysteries. Asmodeus might pour forth for a century, and still the tale would be untold.

The Artists and Amateurs' Society have elected Sir Antonio Brady their president for this year.

The indisposition of Sir Edward Landseer, we are sorry to say, has changed to a serious illness.

The American barque Wasp has been wrecked eastward of the rock of Gibraltar.

A new penny paper entitled the "Composite" has been started at Birkenhead.

Last week the *Hereford Journal* presented to its readers a supplement containing a fac-simile of the number of the same paper issued exactly a hundred years ago. There are no less than thirty-two English provincial newspapers more than a century old.

Mr. Sutherland Edwards (*Times* correspondent), is with the German army in the north of France.

Mr. Leighton, who, we are glad to say, has recovered his late illness, intends finishing a most important work, the subject of which is taken from the "Alcestis" of Euripides. It represents Hercules struggling with death for the life of Alcestis.

Two new papers have been started in Dublin: the *Morning Star* and the *Billet Doux*.

A bust of Charles Dickens has just been executed by Mr. H. F. Woodington, jun.

Gabel—the famous *gendarme* in Offenbach's *Genevieve*—was killed at Sedan.

"On the Ruins of the Second Empire" is the title of a little book, which is being written on the recent history of France, by Azamut Batuk.

The *Two Roses* is to be succeeded at the Vaudeville Theatre by the *Two Thorns*. Both pieces are by the same author, Mr. Alberry.

"The Coming Man" is the title of a philosophical novel by the Rev. James Smith, shortly to be published.

Miss Henrietta Hodson has recovered from her illness.

Vesta, a burlesque on Spontini's *La Vestale*, by Mr. H. B. Farnie, will be the next production at St. James's.

Bach left as many as three hundred church cantatas, not one of which has, it is stated, been heard in England.

The *London Figaro* says, "The first part of the *Milk Journal* has appeared. Though not printed, as we expected it would be, on cream-laid paper, it will certainly make its whey."

Phillip James Bailey, the author of "Festus," has written a war poem worthy of the great book that made him famous. It is, we believe, a defence of Napoleon and the Empire, and will be published in the *Gentleman's Magazine.* The same periodical is to have a diary of the seige of Paris written by a friend of Dr. Russell's.

The *School Board Chronicle* is to be assisted in the review and correspondence department by the leading educators and philosophers of the day. We have heard several names of note mentioned in connection with the first number.

The Present Season.—Crichley, Wilde, and Co. are now showing a large section of their Patent Air Warmers; also, the Patent Terra-Cotta Gas Stove, which is entirely free from smoke or smell. New pattern Hot-Air Stoves for Halls, panelled with Encaustic Tiles. Churches, Mansions, Shops, &c., heated on the most approved principles. Show Rooms, 5, 6, and 6½, Cannon-street. Works, Bordesley. [119

Important.—14, Carr's-lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent. saved in value. [24

Patent Teeth on Soft Gums.—Mr. William J. Watson, Surgeon Dentist, 16, Newhall-street, Birmingham, begs to inform the inhabitants of the Midland Counties, that he is the SOLE INVENTOR and DISCOVERER of a new system of fixing PATENT TEETH on SOFT GUMS, and he being the actual Maker is enabled to supply Teeth *at about one-third the usual charges*. Single Teeth from 3s. 6d. each; Sets from £2 10s., including all charges. Perfectly fitted at one visit. Attendance daily from nine a.m. till eight p.m. Consultation free. [164

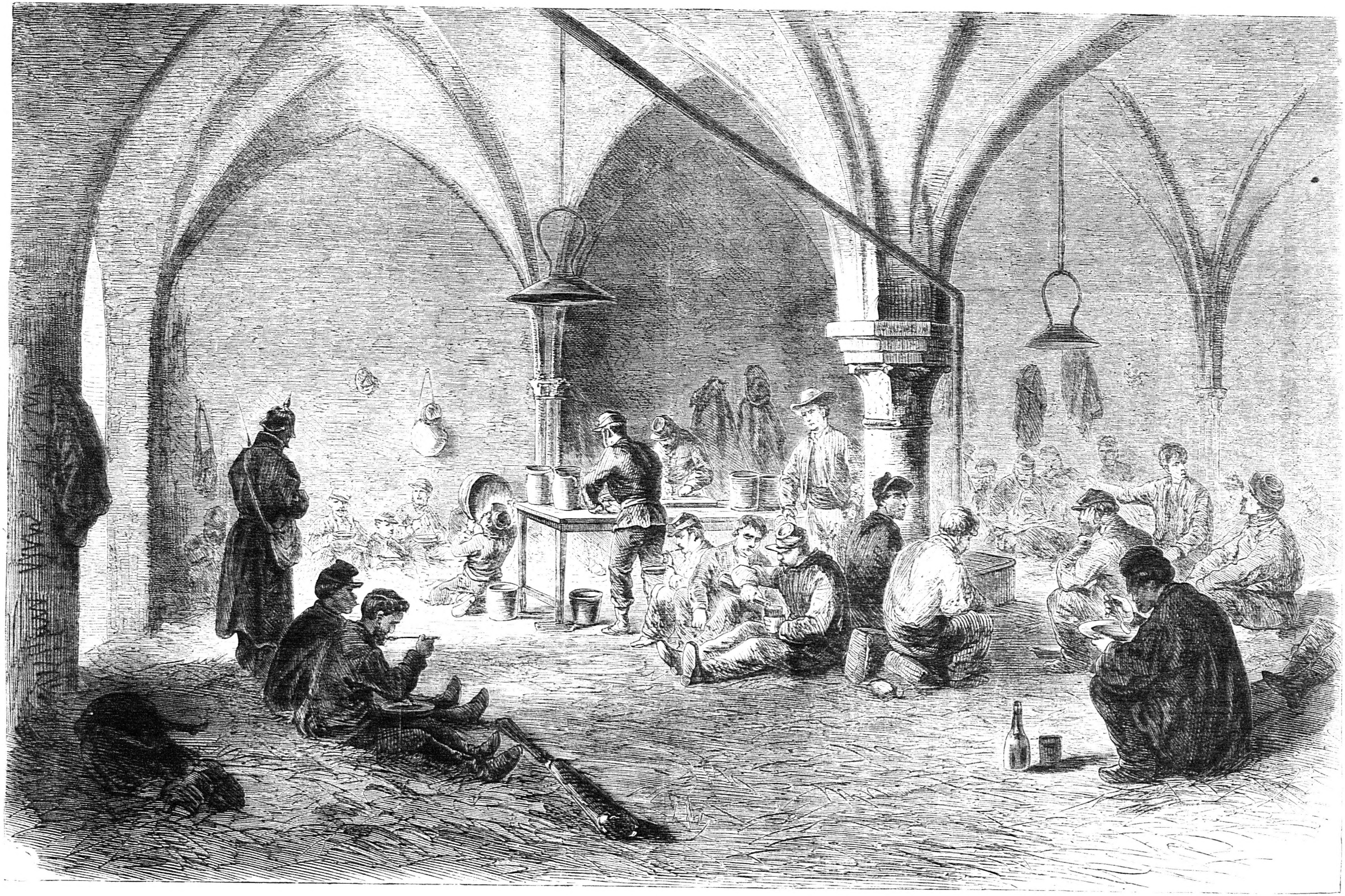
The Hair.—The Plain Truth.—Mrs. Allen's World's Hair Restorer will positively restore the natural original colour in every case of greyness, no matter from what cause it arises, and the hair is stimulated to natural growth. The "Zylobalsamum," as a hair-dressing for young and old, is the best article that can be used; it imparts a gloss and vigorous appearance to the hair very beautiful to see. The Restorer, 6s.; the Zylobalsamum, 3s.; in large bottles only.—Depot, 266, High Holborn, London. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers. [189

Floriline!!—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the Fragrant Floriline on a wet tooth brush produces a delightful foam, which cleanses the Teeth from all impurities, strengthens and hardens the gums, prevents tartar, and arrests the progress of decay. It gives to the Teeth a peculiar and beautiful whiteness, and imparts a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed Teeth, a disordered stomach, or tobacco smoke. The Fragrant Floriline is purely vegetable, and equally adapted to old and young. It is the greatest Toilet discovery of the age. Sold in elegant cases, complete, at 2s. 6d., by all Chemists and Perfumers.—H. C. Gallup, Proprietor, 493, Oxford-street, London. [156

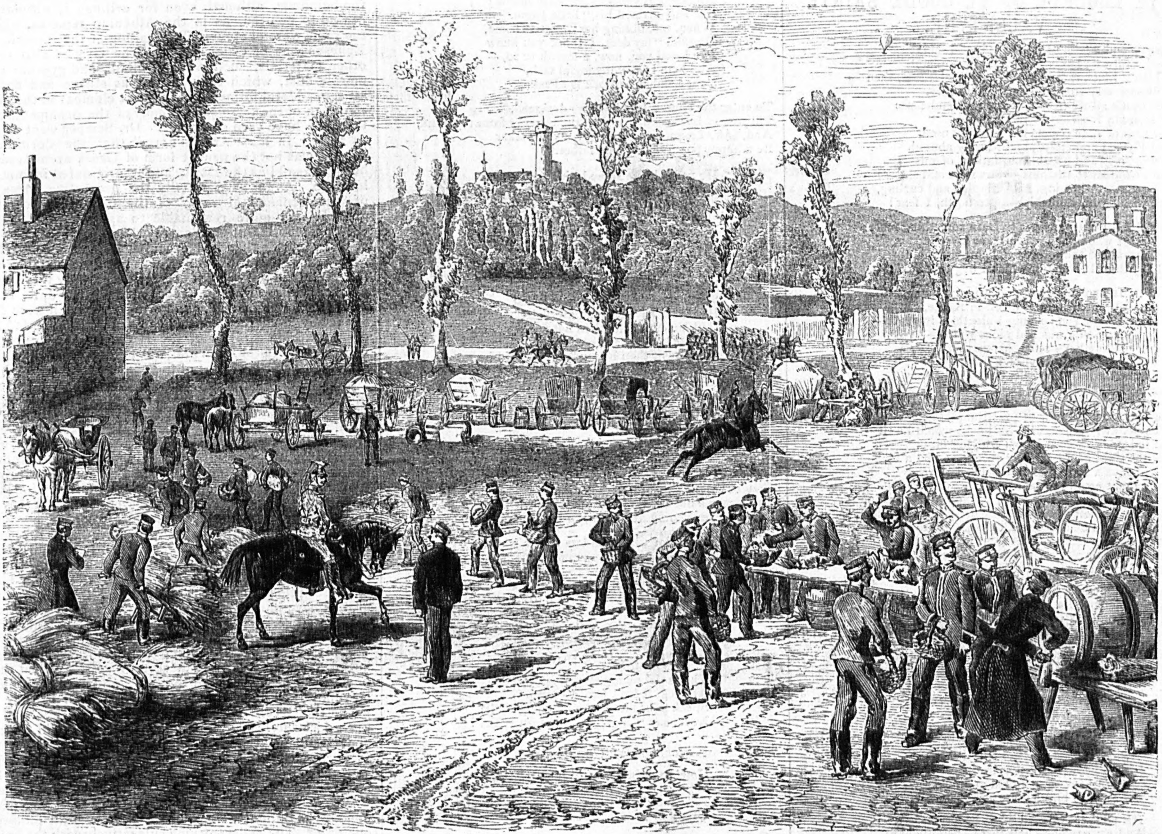
Faceache, Toothache, Tic Doloreux.—ADAM SMITH'S NEURALGINE effects a certain cure.—Depôt, 39, Ann-street. Sold by all Chemists; and J. Yardley, of Bloxwich. [107

Pure Water.—Alfred Bird, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new Carbon Filter, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester-street, Birmingham. [930

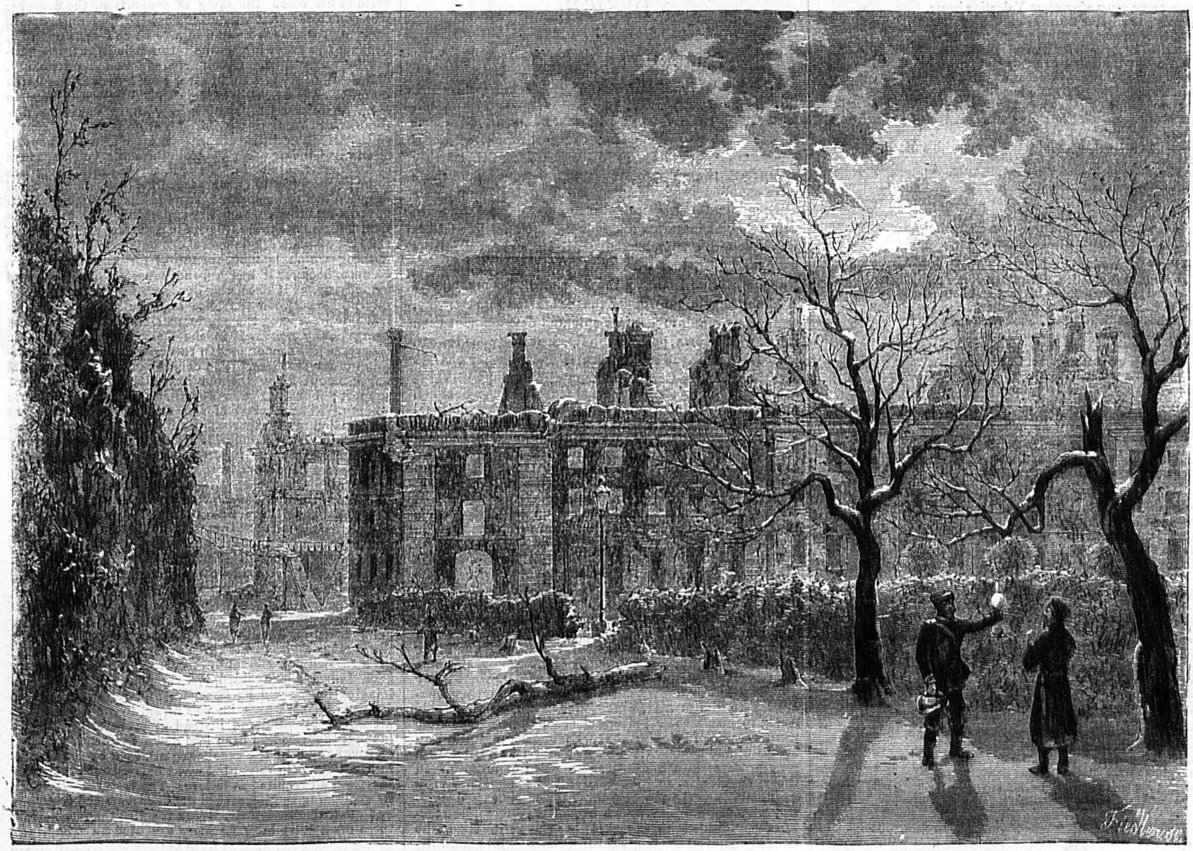
Advice to Mothers.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694



PRISONERS (GARIBALDIANS AND FRANC-TIREURS) AT DIJON.



BEFORE PARIS: DISTRIBUTION OF RATIONS TO THE GERMAN TROOPS ON THE VERT GALANT.



RUINS OF THE PALACE OF ST. CLOUD.

YE LEGENDE OF YE GOODE SAINTE VALENTYNE.

THE calendar tells us this worthy old saint
Died, centuries back, of a certain complaint,
Which it hints, rather darkly, was martyrdom, then
A disease very common among holy men.
And that's all we're told of the reverend cause
Of so many breaches of filial laws—
The tons of note papers are annually used,
And Hymen applauded, and Murray abused.
Of huggings and kisses, translations of misses
From maidens to matrons—vows false and sincere—
Of postmen disbursing, half crippled and cursing,
And wishing his saintship—a pen'north, I fear!

Now, I felt rather anxious to learn something more
Of a saint whom, at least, all true lovers adore,
So I ransacked the records and chronicles old
Till I gathered the facts, which I beg to unfold:

In ancient times, and when at home,
A worthy couple dwelt in Rome,
Whose son—young Valentine, in sooth—
A goodly was and pious youth—
His father's pride, his mother's joy,
A perfect model of a boy,
Of whom the folks were wont to say
He'd make a man some coming day!
He wore his hair straight, eschewed billiards and smoking,
And had quite a horror of practical joking;
At home, ev'ry night, with his books would he sit—
And indeed 'tis recorded—an edifying bit—
That the sight of a latch-key once gave him a fit.
He had such a hatred of falsehood, I've read
That naught could induce him to *lie* in a bed;
Whilst so tender his heart was and loth to give pain,
When the carpets were *beaten* he'd cry like the rain.
But the virtues on space won't permit me to dwell,
Of this embryo martyr—this saint in the shell—
Enough that by all he was loved and respected,
A lad of whom very great things were expected.

Of course, being of a pious turn,
His love for "holy church" did burn;
And so it was arranged that he
Should graduate in sanctity,
At some academy, or college,
Famed for imparting sacred knowledge;
To youthful Christian minds, whose aim
It was to blacken Satan's name—
Spread desolation 'mid the pagan
Gods, from Jupiter to Dagon—
Smite brazen idols, hip and thigh,
And every form of heresy—
Snuff out Olympian superstition,
And preach salvation through contrition;
At last, evading mould and maggot,
Attain to bliss by fire and faggot.

His mother swooned when he went away,
And his guv'nor's hair turned slightly gray,
While he said "adieu" in a broken tone,
That seemed to make his vitals groan—
His last words to his virtuous son
Were, "Val, take care of number one!"

Some seven years after came Valentine home,
To pass a few weeks with the old folks in Rome,
Ere finally taking the vows, from whose mesh
Would be henceforth for him no escape in the flesh.
His friends were delighted to see him once more,
His parents could nearly kneel down and adore
Their son, grown so holy and handsome and wise,
He seemed little else than a god in disguise;
But, alas! and alack! he had scarcely been back
A week, or ten days at the most,
When he went out to spend a few hours with a friend,
And was there introduced by his host
To a beautiful maid who the very deuce played
With his heart in an instant almost;
How *shall* I describe her? her eyes as the Tiber
Were liquid—her long flowing hair
Fell in curls round a form might an anchorite warm—
And, in a phrase, she was all there.

Wild and itching his blood danced through every vein,
With a curious sensation, not pleasure, nor pain,
It seemed to be something betwixt and between,
And rather confused the young gent who was "green."
Bewitched and bewildered he followed the girl,
His heart in a flutter, his head in a whirl,
Till gradually dawned on him, somehow or other,
A feeling all women were not like his mother.
Like one in a trance he led her to dance,
And when they were left together,
He managed to say, in a graceful way,
Something novel about the weather!
To our hero that night like a dream of delight
Sped—a metaphor common to borrow,
And he squeezed her fair hand when they bade adieu, and
Got permission to call on the morrow.

They met again, she smiled, he blushed,
Sly Cupid's wings their hearts had brushed—
There was no cause to doubt it;
And though they did not hint, in speech,
The passion which pervaded each
Their eyes told all about it.
What boots it to tell of the struggle that beauty
Cost Valentine's bosom, between love and duty—
One minute resolving her fetters to burst,
Next, witness suspended society first.

'Twas now near the period his vows should be taken,
And either the church or the damsel forsaken,
He saw there was no time to lose in the matter,
So made his selection—of course 'twas the latter,
Determined to offer the following day,
His hand to the maid without further delay.

Next morning, quite early, he called to propose,
Remembering the bird and the worm, I suppose,
And found her, she said, making charity clothes;
Though, I rather suspect, it was darning her hose.
Be that as it may be, her colour arose,
And down fell needle, down fell thread;
Her eyes fell, also, as she said,
"How kind it was of him to call."
While, striving hard to seem at ease,
And stop the knocking of his knees,
He answered, "O, yes, not at all."
But by and bye, his courage came,
And the girl's cheeks grew all aflame;
She half divined his "little game."
When, mentioning her Christian name,
He said, "my dear, I think you know
I've loved you, now, a month or so,—
And here to-day my joyful task,
Your hand in wedlock is to ask.

To enter the church I had always designed,
Till your charms soon banished the thought from my mind,
And, now, I assure you, I'd very much rather
Be a happy papa, than a holy father."

He paused, she sighed—his arm strays
Around a waist that ne'er knew stays;
He drew her to him with a kiss—
O ecstacy! O cream of bliss!
Was ever mortal joy like this?
A crimson flush suffused each cheek,
Betrayed the tale her lips should speak—
She trembled, but 'twas not from fright,
Her eyes swam in a tender light,
She looked so lovely, loving—that
He would have been an awful flat
Had Valentine not then felt fain
To kiss her o'er and o'er again.
"Say, wilt thou be my bride?" said he,
"O speak, thy voice is melody,
I long to hear it flow."
Like cadence of a silvery bell
The answer on his listeners fell—
A softly murmured "No."

He fled from the spot like a person demented,
And in the next moment the maiden repented,
For dearly she loved him, and huge was her woe
That Valentine should have been gulled by her "No."
(But a man's not a fish to be played with, you know—
If he bite you should hook him, or just let him go!)

She sent him a letter in less than a week,
Wherein she devoured the unfortunate leek.
O! O! misery!
'Twas a wonder that either of them survived,
He had taken the vows before it arrived!
And 'twas all U P.

MORAL.

FOR THE LADIES.

The moral of my story's simple—
At least, it isn't hard to guess—
Speak your mind who ever pops it (?)
Never say "No!" if you mean "Yes!"

FOR THE GENTLEMEN.

Here's a wrinkle worth rememb'ring,
When you go to woo the fair—
Take their *cartes* but not their *negatives*,
Of a lady's "No!" beware.

THE A. B. C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

ITALIAN, OR CINQUE-CENTO.

THE term Cinque-Cento does not imply simply sixteenth century art, but the most prominent style of that period, and the style to which that of the fifteenth century inevitably tended. It was only after a great accumulation of materials that it was possible to thoroughly appreciate the spirit of the old arabesques, and these were supplied by the excavations of ancient monuments at Rome, and elsewhere, at the close of the fifteenth century. The intention and spirit of the ancient masters was at length comprehended. All extraneous elements were excluded, and with such capacities as those of Raphael, Giulio Romano, the Lombardi, Bramante, and Michael Angelo, no wonder that it started into new life, and grew even into a more splendid development than it had ever known, perhaps, in its most gorgeous Roman period. Arabesque scroll work is the peculiar characteristic of Cinque-Cento ornamentation; and with these it combines in its elements every feature of classical art, and with unlimited choice of natural and conventional imitations from the entire animal and vegetable kingdoms, both arbitrarily disposed and combined. Another of its features is its beautiful variations of ancient standard ornaments. Before the close of the sixteenth century ornamental art was already in process of decline, and was confounded in a promiscuous mixture of forms and elements of all kinds, the heaped up *debris* of a style the most choice in selection and symmetrical in arrangement.

Dr. Zerffi in his thirteenth lecture at the Kensington Museum, on the Historical Development of Ornamental Art, entered into what he called Greek architektonic art, or architecture in detail. There could not be the slightest doubt, he said, that the Greeks were the first who had in reality succeeded in bringing down to first principles the products of architecture, and in so doing they had evidenced a capability of creating real works of art. They surrounded space (and that is what every architect has to do) with walls, and in this they succeeded to the utmost, firstly, because they were able freely to chose their material; secondly, because they were capable of bringing that well chosen material into beautiful and symmetrical forms; and thirdly, because they were always erecting for a certain purpose. In these conditions are included all the elements of a good building. In the beginning the Greeks used sandstone. After alluding to the use of travertine, the lecturer proceeded to say that in course of time the Greeks, as well as the Romans, used white marble. Next in importance to stone as a building material with the Greeks was wood, but by degrees wood vanished altogether, and it is only to be traced in the ceilings of the buildings, although even for ceilings it ultimately ceased to be used, as in the Athenian temples, where the roofs were of stone. The ceiling of the Temple of Ephesus was of cedar wood. The Greeks also used other materials, such as clay, chalk, and gypsum and marble dust, which they ground as stucco and called κονιασις. Metal formed a very great element in the construction of the temples, as many of the ornaments are traced to have been of bronze. Dr. Semper went so far as to say in his "Art History," that the Corinthian capital was not the newest form of Greek architecture, but was as old as the Doric, and it originated in metalloteknic. As far as especially the decorative forms of of the ornamental *motif* of the Corinthian capital goes, it was quite reasonable to assume that before the people learnt to carve the ornament out of stone or marble they had executed it in bronze. This supposition, said the lecturer, was not unreasonable, although he did not think it correct. Certainly there was plenty of bronze work in Greece at an early date, such as swords, ewers, shields, and armour, for such were described by Homer. A proof of this was also afforded by the Corinthian capitals of the Museion at Alexandria, which were of bronze, while the pillars were of white marble. The upper part of the acanthus leaves were of gilt bronze. Seeing that the Greeks used all the four principal materials of art—*i.e.*, the plastic, the elastic, the pliable, and the solid, we might investigate Greek architecture in all its fundamental principles. In every kind of artistic building we had two lines, the vertical and the horizontal. The use of these lines was well known to the Greeks, and they also used the curved line and the plain; this was especially the case with the cylindrical or conical columns. The great secret of the success of Greek structures consisted in one single condition—symmetry. The Greek always knew how to arrange the parts so as to bring about a beautiful total. The lecturer impressed upon his audience that they must not allow themselves to be led so far as to think that there was a kind of prescription in that symmetry, and that they must always have one and the same symmetry. That was a great mistake, and would only make the students who committed it copyists instead of self-thinking artists. They might vary that symmetry in an unlimited degree, but they must start from a certain unit. When they knew how to group around that unit, and how to produce a symmetrical building, they would succeed in that in which the Greeks so highly excelled. In speaking of the order or style of a building, the student should clearly understand what was meant by each of those terms. Many authorities said that order and style were the same—were synonymous and convertible terms—but he (the lecturer) denied the correctness of this dictum. "Style" was subjective, "order" objective. "Order" was fixed upon by an unlimited number of artists, who all followed one order. The artist working subjectively with the order created his own style. Of "orders" there were in reality but three, but there were innumerable styles. The artist should not bind himself in any way to a special "order," but in carrying out the order should create a style of his own. Speaking of proportion, the lecturer went on to say that whenever anybody told an artist to keep to proportions he told him to be as free as possible, because the artist himself had to settle what the proportions should be. Greek art was founded on beauty, and that beauty it found in freedom, however regulated by order and law, and that is everywhere the case in art. As in the Greek mythology there could be distinguished three principal orders of gods and goddesses, so the Greek architecture was divisible into three principal divisions or orders. All architectural elements are of a geometrical origin. In architecture something has to be supported and encompassed by forms, and a kind of union has to be secured between the members which support and those which are supported. As soon as a man knows how to do this he is a perfect architect; all the rest of his work is mere ornamentation. There is nothing which is more beautiful for support than a column, because it has a beauty perfect in itself, and embodying, as it does, the dynamic force, it gracefully interposes between the base and the plinth or architrave, representing the static element. This was most energetically expressed in the Doric order. The Ionic order was less pronounced in this respect, and the Corinthian order still less. The echinus of the Ionic capital might be cut away without any loss of even *apparent* support; but that was not the case with the Doric column. The capital of the Corinthian column was long-bodied and tapering, leading to the impression that behind it or inside of it there must be a very strong support to carry the superstructure. The Ionic capital evidenced a departure from correct principles, and this was still more the case with the Corinthian capital. Referring to the caryatides of the Erectheum, Dr. Zerffi said that there was nothing elegant in such a design, as the Greeks themselves must have perceived, for it was only in that building that this Asiatic-like notion was embodied. Respecting the leading characteristics of each of the three orders, the lecturer said that in the Doric order proportion was pre-eminent, while symmetry was the pre-eminent characteristic of Ionic, the predominant quality in the Corinthian order being eurithmy. Although he had attempted to classify the various styles of the three orders, he would say that in all such classifications narrow-minded pedantry should always be avoided, lest the power of the artist's imagination should be checked, and fettered down to outward forms which he was afraid to break, and thus art would be hindered instead of promoted. Various fanciful theories had been laid down as forming a sort of royal road to the excellence attained by the Greeks in architectural design, but when carried out practically they had all resulted in failure. The lecturer concluded by explaining the inferences deduced from the triglyphs and other features of the Greek temples that such structures must have been formerly executed in wood, and by expressing his dissent from certain far-fetched theories of archæologists, such as, for instance, that the spaces between the triglyphs were formerly windows.

BIRMINGHAM AND THE MIDLANDS.

THE Town Council of Birmingham are in collision with the Endowed Schools Commission. Popular political feeling in the capital of the Midlands differs widely from the spirit of the Endowed Schools Act and the manner in which its provisions are to be carried out. Birmingham is all for representation. It will hear of no compromise on that point. The managers of its Grammar school must be elected by the ratepayers or they will fail to be popular, though their deeds were those of angels. But the Commissioners are not so entirely enamoured of representation. They have their own way of appointing governors of those great educational institutions, and their way is not that of Birmingham. The plan suggested by Mr. Hammond, the Assistant Commissioner, is to have a governing body consisting partly of elected members, partly of an executive element consisting of the mayor, the bishop, and the chairman of the School Board, and partly of a "co-optative" element. The "co-optative" element came in for a good deal of scorn and afforded some amusement at the Birmingham Town Council meeting on Tuesday, and the executive did not fare much better, though his worship, the mayor, one of the executive nominees, was present. The principal object of discontent, however, in that department was the bishop, who for the reason that he was a bishop, was considered an altogether improper person to be a member of the governing body of King Edward's School. On this point Mr. Jesse Collings especially, among the town councillors, was strong. He called attention to the fact that the Town Council had sent a paper to the School Commissioners, suggesting "that the trustees of the Grammar School should be men elected for the freshness of their ideas and their sympathy with the people; and asked whether it was consistent with this principle that they should have a bishop sent among them to manage their property." To Mr. Collings's mind, nothing could be much more monstrous than that. Many of the leaders of public opinion in Birmingham have worked out a very distinct theory on the subject of educational endowments, by which they try the scheme of the Commissioners. By a line of argument similar to that adopted by Euclid, they have demonstrated that the money left by pious persons in ancient times is public property, and is, therefore, to be disposed of by its owners—the public—as they may think fit. That the Government should come in and propose a plan of its own for the administration of the funds seems, therefore, to them, an act of usurpation and injustice. But the Birmingham Town Councillors go a step beyond the mere advocacy of the representative system; they demand that they, as the Town Council, already elected by the ratepayers, should be the governing body of the school, without any *ex-officio* or "co-optative" element. As the point was put by Alderman Osborne;—"The Council had adopted a resolution to the effect that in their opinion the governing body of the school should be a responsible body, and that, consequently, the Town Council should have the control of the endowment, by which course better government and a greater degree of responsibility would be secured than by any other scheme." It is worthy of note, and the fact will not be without its interest to the members of local corporations in small towns, that in enlarging upon the importance of the Birmingham Town Council, Alderman Osborne stated that the Council had the administration of something like £200,000 a year. The upshot of a very long and warm discussion was the passing of a resolution to the effect that, in the opinion of the Birmingham Town Council, "the proposed constitution of the governing body of the Free Grammar School, as indicated in the report of the Commissioners appointed under the Endowed Schools Act, is most unsatisfactory, as, by acknowledging the self-elective and *ex-officio* elements, it deprives the inhabitants of the right of electing the governing body, thus failing to secure to the public that degree of responsibiliiy which can alone ensure the future good government of the endowments. And in order to carry into effect the views of this Council, as thereby expressed, the Endowed Schools Committee do, and are hereby instructed to, take such further proceedings as they may deem advisable." No fewer than forty town councillors voted in favour of that resolution, and only four recorded their names against it. The leader of the opposition of four was Mr. Councillor Lowe; and when a motion was proposed to the effect that a public meeting should be called, "to consider the question of the future constitution of the Governing Body of the Free Grammar School," that gentleman observed that "if he believed it possible that a quiet orderly meeting, in which the respectable burgesses would have an opportunity of calmly expressing their opinions, would be held, he would support the resolution. They had had some experience of public meetings lately, however, and they knew that when they rang the Republican bell and blew the Chartist whistle and engaged public agitators, they collected a mass of people, and the result could be guessed. It would be worthless; and he was therefore opposed to the meeting being held." In many Town Councils this would have sounded like a serious allegation against the promoters of the meeting and the inhabitants; but the impeachment did not ruffle the feelings of the majority of forty, who passed that resolution as easily as they did the former one. To the credit of Birmingham and its great Grammar School, strangers ought to be informed that the institution, besides being one of the wealthiest, is one of the noblest and best managed endowed schools in England, in spite of the agitation for its amendment. It gives 600 boys a high class education, quite gratuitously, and it is open without patronage or favour to every child in Birmingham, no other qualification being demanded than to pass a very simple examination, and to come out high enough on the examination lists to be within the number of vacancies. A new method of electing the governing body may be introduced, but it is not likely to increase to any great extent the remarkable excellence and accessibility of the school to the children of the residents in Birmingham of whatevar degree.

THE Education League is hard, to the extent of injustice, on the Elementary Education Act, in its monthly statement of the progress of its work. In the first paragraph may be found the following extract:—"It is almost needless to remark that the formation of School Boards has been confined to towns. In the rural districts the hostility of the clergy to the control of schools by the ratepayers continues unabated; the school—though largely supported by national funds—being considered mainly as an appendage of the church." Instead of being "almost needless" it was quite needless to remark that the formation of School Boards has been confined to towns, for in the list of about 110 School Boards formed or in process of formation there are several parish Boards. It is really, we suppose needless to state, and therefore, following the example of this report, we take the opportunity of stating that the League is very severe upon the cumulative vote; for, in several instances, it says, "the result of this device has been to give majorities to the advocates of sectarian teaching. It is obvious that, at no distant period, a great effort must be made to reverse this method of ensuring to a minority the power of overruling and taxing the majority for the promotion of sectarian interests." The League, of course, rejoices in the rather unpleasant reception which Mr. Forster and Mr. Stansfeld met with at the hands of their constituents. "The League," it observes, "may justly derive encouragement from this most significant and decided protest in favour of the principles for the advocacy of which it was established, and for which it will continue to work until they are finally embodied in a great, and enduring, and beneficent act of legislation." It is a very energetic organization.

LONDONERS, and the inhabitants of towns situate at considerable distances from the coal fields, will envy the people of Stourbridge who, burning gas at from 3s. to 3s. 9d. per 1,000 cubic feet, feel themselves justified in carrying on a persevering agitation for the reduction of that rate. In order to enlighten the agitators on the subject, a statistical table has been compiled, showing the amounts paid for gas in the principal towns in the Midlands. From this it appears that the cheapest place is Walsall, where gas is sold as low as 2s. 4d. per 1,000 feet. At Middlesbro' with less than 20,000 inhabitants, the price charged is only from 2s. 10d. to 3s. The Wolverhampton gas is a uniform price of 2s. 7d. The following towns pay only 3s.:—Dudley, Willenhall, Burslem, Bilston, Bristol, and Stourbridge. The measures proposed by the gas consumers of Stourbridge are for reducing their gas rate to the level of Walsall, and the erection of new works under the management of the local authorities. Many a town would like to take a lesson in this matter from the ratepayers of Stourbridge, but the fastidious might object to so close a relationship with the Black Country.

MANY sojourners and dwellers in Birmingham will be thankful to the Registrar-General for calling the attention of the Council to the desirability of properly naming and numbering the streets. While that remains undone the representatives of the people can hardly want the additional work on their hands which would be entailed by the performance of the duties of the governing body of King Edward's School. For a town fourth in England in size and importance, Birmingham is very defective in many of the things for which the Local Board of Health is responsible. Its streets are excessively dirty; its manufactories are permitted to pour as much soot and smoke as they please upon the heads of the people; and it is very difficult in some cases to make out the name of a street, and always a problem of considerable intricacy to find a house by its number. These are subjects which might very well occupy the attention of the Town Council, instead of long discussions on the theory of representation.

A FEW days ago, when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Muntz met their constituents at Birmingham, on the question of the Princess Louise's dowry, another and altogether different subject was broached by Mr. Jeremiah Thomas, who complained that, though property qualification was abolished with respect to a seat in Parliament, the principle remained in force with regard to the office of town councillor, and this was represented as a grievance to the working classes of Birmingham. It was expected, Mr. Thomas said, that the question would be introduced in the House of Commons in the ensuing session, and he wished to know if the members would vote for the abolition of that property qualification? To which Mr. Dixon answered—"Most decidedly," and Mr. Muntz added—"Oh, yes; quite clear on that." The honourable members were glad to be able to accede to one request from the electors, having felt constrained to reject their prayer on another. Both gentlemen refused to promise not to vote for the Princess's dowry. On that point we will quote a few words from Mr. Muntz's brief speech;—"The present grant," he said, "would be proposed in pursuance of a contract entered into by the sovereign and the people, and was in lieu of property given up by the sovereign to Parliament. This property belonged to the Royal family as much as any one of their coats belonged to them—('No, no;' and a Voice: 'It was the property of the people'). Certainly not, the Royal family could have sold it—(another Voice: 'They got it by conquest'). Well, if they were to go back to the reign of William the Conqueror, and dispute his right, then they might attack every private property in the country. The hon. member then pointed out the custom which had prevailed with regard to Royal dowries for the past one hundred years, and said he should go into the House prepared to hear both sides of the question. He had no prejudice whatever. He certainly had nothing to hope from Royalty, but unless he heard arguments against the dowry superior to those in favour of it, then he should not vote against it."

FEBRUARY MAGAZINES.

MR. PEBODY contributes a most interesting article to the *Gentleman's* on "Charles Lamb at his Desk." The writer does not give us any new facts, but he tells the old ones in a light and quaint style, that places Charles Lamb with all his whims and oddities before the reader. As we peruse the article we can see the author of the "Essays of Elia," with his shuffling gait and his black dress, quite distinctly—in our mind's eye. The ending is not satisfactory; in fact, there seems no finish at all. One is conscious that there is something not set down, and that it is only the first half of a paper. "A Naval Architect" in a clever contribution, entitled "England and her Ocean Empire," assures us that the tight little island is not in the danger the daily press would have us believe. He tells us, and we agree with him, that our navy, even as it stands now (and it is becoming more powerful every day) would be able to hold its own on the waters. He seems to have no doubt that Britannia will still continue to rule the waves. In "Bygone Celebrities" the writer displays flunkeyism of a high order.

THE majority of the articles in *Macmillan's* have a bearing upon the war that we hope is now terminating. The *Gentleman's* gave us "France among the Nations" a month or two ago. "A Military Contributor" makes use of a similar title—("England's Place among the Nations,")—in the magazine under notice, and tells us what we have gleaned from the daily papers long ago. The number contains a pretty and well-written sonnet by "E. D. S."

Belgravia is quite as attractive as ever, containing a mixture of matter good, bad, and very bad indeed, "Poetry and Prose" is a disgrace to the pages,—we don't know which is the most absurd; the poetry or the engraving. "Honoria's Vengeance," on the contrary, is good in verse (by Mr. Sawyer) and illustration (by John Proctor). The artist is an imitator of Mr. Tenniel; but this is no discredit, seeing that now and then he surpasses his model. Miss Braddon continues "Fenton's Quest," and gives the four chapters of another story—"The Lovels of Arden." There may be some doubt about the quality of Miss Braddon's stories, but there is no doubt whatever about the quantity. This popular authoress does not write on the homœopathic principle.

THE author of "Palomydes" in *Victoria* shows much discretion in withholding his name. Altogether, looking at the index, the number would pass for an old one with the date altered. It is made up as usual of "Victoria Discussion Society," "Will She Fail," Miscellanea," Correspondence," "Literature," &c.

Golden Hours is a new venture, and a promising one, although there are perhaps too many of its class in the market already. The lines "Poverty" are creditable, well expressed, but not poetic. The writer should have been true to his text, and followed it in prose.

THE *People's Magazine* is not bad, but it would be better if the contributions were shorter and better. The pictures are very good, and we are glad to see Mr. Mahoney is again on the staff of artists.

"OUR Own Fireside" is another miscellaneous production, nicely printed, and containing some interesting matter. "Scotland's Welcome" a piece of rhyme, has a footnote to the effect that it is copyright. We are glad to hear it. There are fourteen poems reprinted from "Pilgrim Songs in Cloud and Sunshine" by the Rev. Newman Hall, an author who has read "Herbert's Poems" and profited thereby.

IN the *Churchman's Magazine*, the article "Clerical Poets of the Seventeenth Century," is continued, and is quite as well written and as interesting as the previous contribution. The papers are varied and good.

THE size of the *Gardener's Magazine* is decidedly awkward, but its contents are good, and it is a most useful publication for country gentlemen, farmers, and gardeners, combining instruction with pleasant reading.

THERE are two new additions to Cassell's publications. *Little Folks* (which would look more like English without the "s"), and the *Illustrated History of the War*. The former is the best thing for children we have seen; the latter is not so much a work to read as to file, seeing that it is nothing better than a compilation from magazines and papers. The *Household Guide*, with a coloured frontispiece, is up to its usual mark of excellence. The *Technical Educator*, issued in the same style and size as the *Popular Educator*, cannot be too highly praised. The *Quiver* is noticeable for one of the worst drawings we have seen for months. It illustrates some verses under the title of "A Picture." The boy's countenance is as completely idiotic and meaningless as the artist could possibly make it. On page 297 is another "picture" almost as insane, and the list doesn't end here either. The illustrations by Townley Green in *Cassell's Magazine* are the best things it contains. "Checkmate" and "Frank Sinclair's Wife" are both good stories.

MARAVILLA COCOA FOR BREAKFAST.—The *Globe* says—Taylor Brothers Maravilla Cocoa has achieved a thorough success, and supersedes every other cocoa in the market. Entire solubility, delicate aroma, and all the concentration of the purest elements of nutrition, distinguish the Maravilla Cocoa above all others. For homœopaths and invalids we could not recommend a more agreeable or valuable beverage.—Sold in packets only, by all grocers. Sole proprietors, Taylor Brothers, London. [272

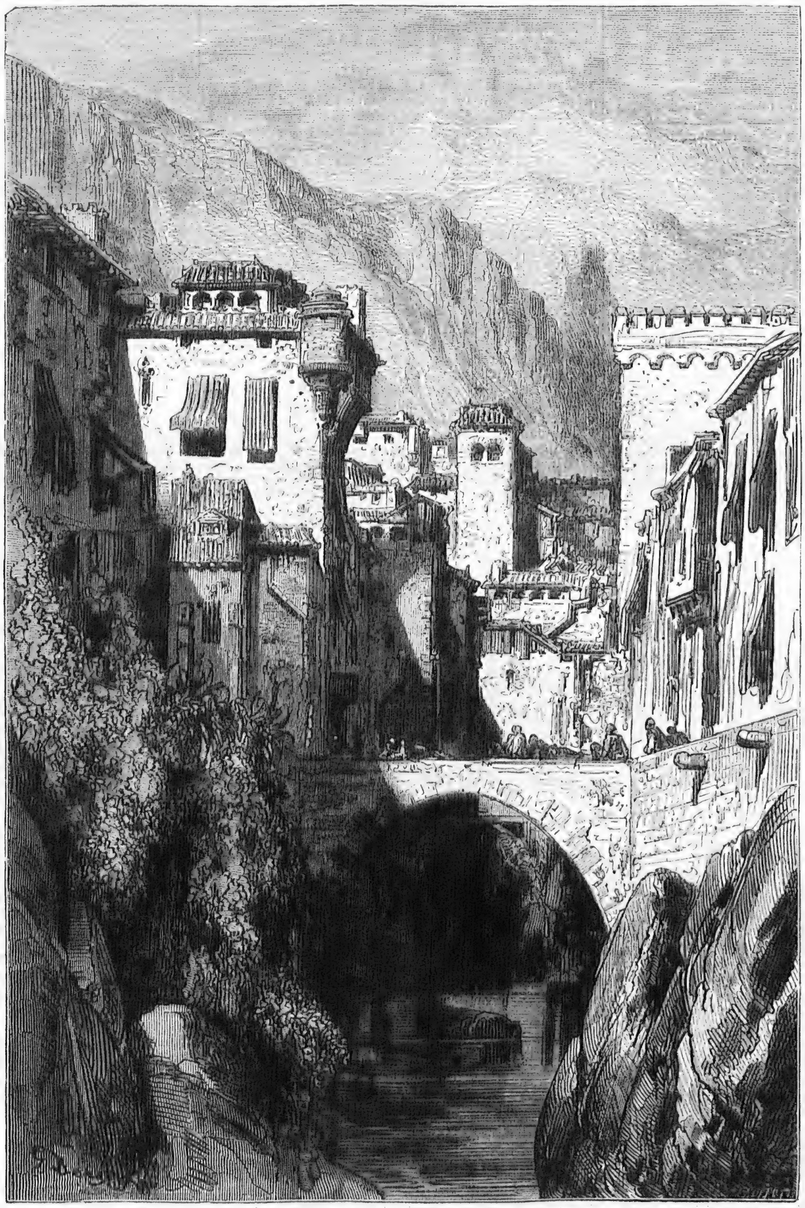
TO CONSUMPTIVES.—A GRATEFUL FATHER is desirous of sending by mail, free of charge to all who wish it, a copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physicians and despaired of by her father, a well-known physician who has now discontinued practice. Sent free. O. P. BROWN, 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London. [244

CONSUMPTION IS CURABLE.—A new and popular Treatise is just published, Fourth Edition, Revised and Enlarged, entitled ON CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS, explaining the Treatment and certain cure by a newly-discovered method, by S. BERRY NIBLETT, M.D. May by obtained, post free, for seven stamps, from the Author, 10, Oxford-terrace, Hyde Park, London. [239

NUREMBURG.

NUREMBURG, that in old times had 70,000 inhabitants, and was the greatest and wealthiest of Imperial cities, the residence of emperors, the seat of Diets, the focus of the trade of Asia and Europe, the most important manufacturing town in Germany, the home of German freedom and art, the cradle of the fine arts, of poetry, and of almost numberless useful inventions, has degenerated from the seventeenth to the beginning of the nineteenth century into a dull provincial town. Forsaken by its ancient commerce, it might be compared to one of the galleons of its own merchants of former days abandoned by the receding tide. The manufactures, once so universally known and prized in all parts of the world, were reduced to dribble in lead pencils, pill boxes, and children's toys. Of late years, however, it has experienced a considerable revival of prosperity, and in spite of all this change of fortune and condition, as a city it remains almost unaltered, retaining probably more than any other in Europe the aspect of times long gone by. It is surrounded by feudal walls and turrets (of which in former days it possessed 365) faced and strengthened in more recent times, when the influence of gunpowder began to be felt, by ramparts and incipient bastions, resembling the early Italian mode of modern fortification. These, again, are inclosed by a ditch 100ft. wide and 50ft. deep, lined throughout with masonry. Its four principal arched gates are flanked by massive cylindrical watch towers, no longer of use as fortifications, but picturesque in a high degree, and serving to complete the coronet of antique towers which encircle the city, as seen from a distance. The traveller arrived within its walls might fancy himself carried back to a distant century, as he threads its irregular streets, and examines its quaint gable-faced houses. Its churches and other public edifices, monuments of the piety and charity of its citizens, are singularly perfect, having escaped unharmed the storm of war, sieges, and even of the Reformation which its inhabitants adopted at an early period, and without any outbreak of fanatic iconoclasm. Its private buildings, including the palace-like mansions of its patrician citizens and merchant nobles, having been built of stone, are equally well preserved. Many of them are still inhabited by the families whose forefathers originally constructed them. Though built in the prevailing fashion of the period, with narrow but highly ornamented fronts, and acutely pointed gables, they are often of large size, inclosing two or three courts, and extending back from one street into another. The ground story, low and vaulted, was usually occupied as a warehouse. The habitable part, though not laid out in a manner consistent with modern ideas of comfort, was richly decorated with carving and stucco; indeed an ancient author (Æneas Sylvius) speaking of the splendours of Nuremburg, declares that a simple citizen was better lodged than the King of Scotland. An additional interest is reflected upon this venerable city, by the fame and works of the great artists it has produced, such as Albert Durer, Peter Vischer, Adam Kraft, Veit Stoss, &c., and though stripped to a great extent of these treasures, in consequence of public and private poverty, she owes her chief ornaments to the productions of their skill still remaining. It will thus be understood that Nuremburg, though dull in a commercial sense, will afford to the travellers of taste high entertainment for a residence of several days. In its ancient and palmy state, when the seat of art and of a far more extensive commerce than at present, it was termed the Gothic Athens; it may now be regarded as sort of Pompeii of the middle ages. A small stream, the Pegnitz, runs from east to west, crossed by fourteen small bridges, divides the town into two nearly equal parts. St. Sebold's church is an extremely beautiful gothic edifice, and exhibits great elegance externally and internally. The Parsonage of St. Sebold's, in one corner of the square in which the church stands, remarkable for its beautiful oriel window, was the residence of Melchior Pfinzing, author of the poem of "Theuerdank." He was a canon of the church. Opposite St. Sebold's church is the gothic chapel of St. Maurice (1313), now converted into a picture gallery, filled with rejected paintings from the gallery at Munich and Schleisheim, and including many from the Boisserée collection. They are almost exclusively of the old Rhenish and German school, chiefly interesting to those who admire these schools, or study the history of art, and few of them calculated to please the general observer. Behind the church of St. Sebold stands the Rathhaus, or Town-Hall, a large building in the Italian style, built 1619, including within it an older town-hall of 1340. The great hall belongs to the older portion of the building, and is remarkable for the paintings in oil by Albert Durer, with which its walls are decorated. They have suffered much from time and injudicious restoration. Adjoining this hall is the Council Chamber, ornamented with the portraits of the worthies of Nuremburg, but chiefly remarkable because in it the business of the Government was transacted, and in its walls are concealed doors leading to secret and subterranean passages, which extend from the Rathhaus in different directions under the streets and houses to the ditch, and beyond the walls. They are partly excavated in the rock, and may still be traced for a considerable distance, but they are choked up with mud and water. There can be no doubt that these sutlets, which were kept secret from the public and not known to exist until recent times, were constructed to afford the magistrates the means of security and escape in case of tumultous risings among their fellow citizens, whom it is evident they knew too well to trust. Below the buildings is a range of horrid dungeons, called Loch Gefangniss, scarcely six feet square, and adjoining them is the torture chamber, still containing the stretching machine, or perpendicular rack, as at Ratisbon. These are now said to be blocked up, or at least are not shown. The existence of these instruments not in the lonely castle of some despotic prince, or tyrannical robber knight, but in the centre of the most populous free cities of Germany—gives a frightful picture of the jurisprudence of the 16th and 17th centuries. In one of the towers on the town-wall called Troschthurm, the Iron Virgin (*eisome jungfrau*) was placed. It was a figure of a girl seven feet high, which opened by secret springs, and pierced with poniards, concealed within its body, the miserable victim who was thrust into its embrace. On the approach of the French army the Virgin and a cartload of similar instruments were despatched in haste out of the town, and sold as old iron. The civic noblesse of Nuremburg, deriving rank from Imperial diplomas, cedes to none in antiquity; several existing families trace their descent in a direct line up to the 11th century. They possess complete and very curious domestic archives, and often MS. history of their ancestors. The ancient form of Government of Nuremburg was decidedly aristocratic, and bore much resemblance to that of Venice. About thirty patrician families for a long time monopolised the chief authority, and from among them was chosen the council of state, consisting of eight members, who formed the executive. Even they were in part excluded from a knowledge of the foreign relations of the free town, and from the administration of its finances, which were confided to the care and honour of distinct and almost irresponsible ministers. That such a body may at times have been guilty of arbitrary acts is highly probable, as well as that the dungeon and torture chambers below the Rathhaus may have contributed to stifle complaints and check opposition. It is nevertheless certain that they were wise rulers and sagacious politicians, to whose arbitration even kings and emperors referred their disputes; and the increase and prosperity of Nuremburg for four centuries is the best proof that they understood and watched over its interests. In process of time, however, deep jealousies of the power monopolised by the patrician body, began to spring up among the inferior citizens, and the ends of the guilds, and struggles and discontents arose, which ended in the many wresting from the few a portion of the authority from which they had been so long excluded. Down to the peace of Presburg the city possessed a constitution of its own, enjoying the privileges, grants, and immunities which had been bestowed upon it by the various German Emperors, beginning as far back as 1219, such as free election of magistrates, and independent courts of justice. The Emperors appointed a Burggrof, or Stadtholder, who was generally a member of some noble or princely family. He lived in a castle within the walls, and was intended to be a protector of the city, though he was usually regarded by the burghers as a thorn is its side. In the upper story of the Rathhaus is a singular representation in stucco of a tournament held here in 1434, the figures as large as life.

The Reichsneste, or Imperial Castle Burg, occupies the most northern and elevated position within the town. Being built on the top of a rock, it towers above all other edifices, and commands the best view of Nuremburg and the country around. It was a favourite residence of many of the German Emperors. Nuremburg was conveniently situated nearly in the centre of their dominions, and they took pleasure in the prosperity of the city, knowing well how much their own treasury benefited by the revenue drawn from it, and how many sturdy men-at-armst could furnish them at a pinch, to combat foreign or domestic foes. They even confided to the custody of its burghers the Imperial Regalia, which were deposited for three centuries in the chapel of the Holy Ghost. The stranger may perhaps be suprised to find in the native city of Albert Durer so few original works by this great and amiable artist. But most of those once in the public buildings of Nuremburg have been given away by the magistrates to kings and electors, and the greater part of the private collections have been sold, owing to the reduced circumstances of the owners. There still remains, however, one painting by Albert Durer, the authenticity of which is beyond suspicion, and which may be regarded as one of his best works—it is the portrait of the burgomaster Holzchaber, a rich politician, and a friend of the painter; and it has remained as an heir-loom in the possession of his descendants ever since it was executed (1526). It is obligingly shown to strangers by its present owner, but only at stated hours; and it is generally necessary to request admission some hours beforehand. Though much altered, Albert Durer's house is still standing at the corner of Albert Durer's-street, No. 376, close under the castle near the Thiergarten-gate. It is now occupied by a society of artists.



SPAIN: THE RIVER DARRO.—BY GUSTAVE DORE.—(*See page* 85)

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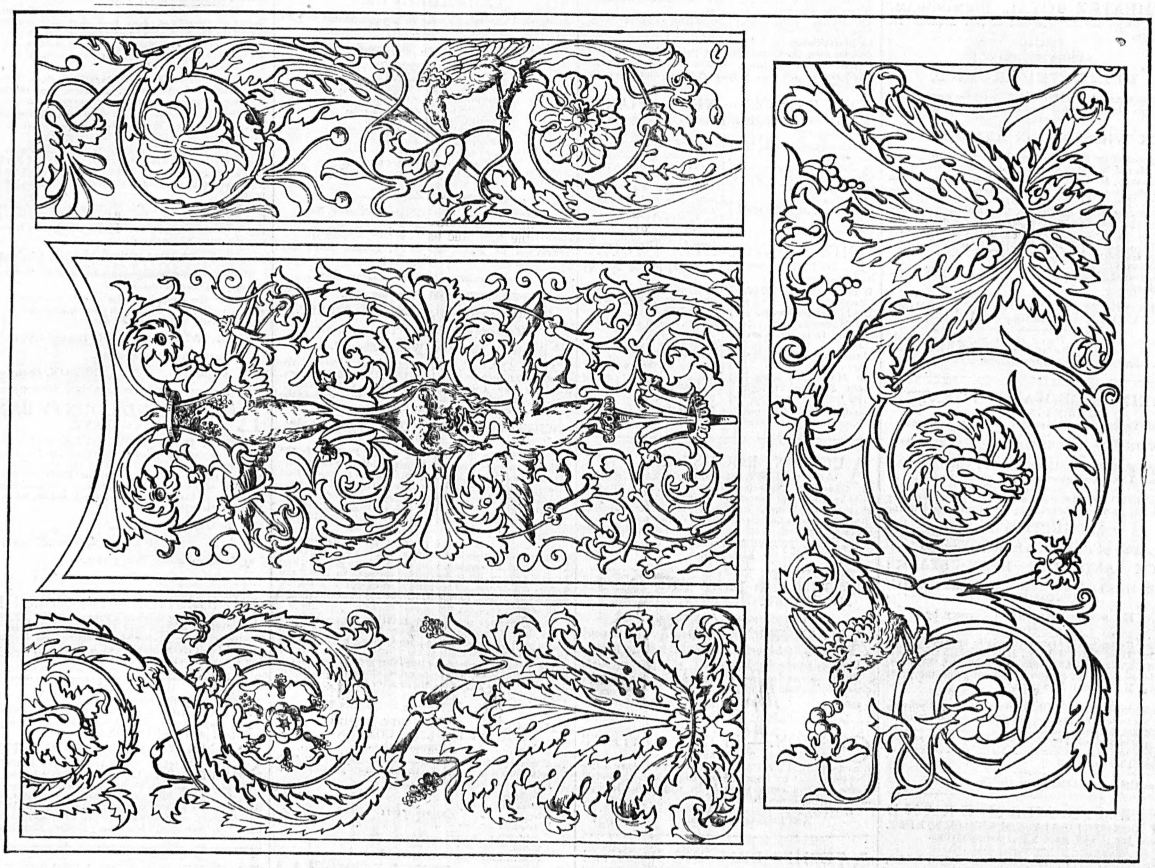

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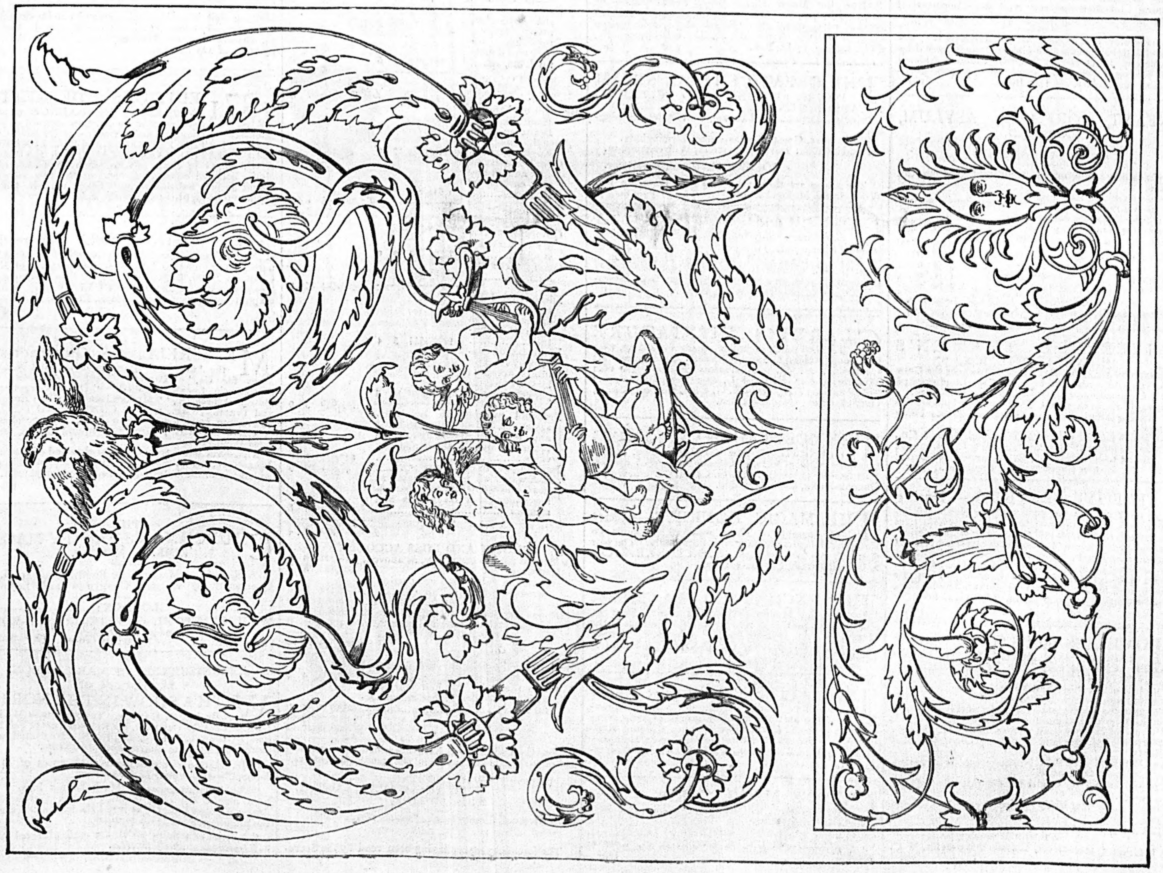

THE A. B. C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.—(*See Page* 90.)—To be Continued.

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Further particulars, see Day Bills. [260

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HENRY W. GREEN, Secretary.

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DONATIONS are earnestly requested towards the COST of the BUILDING about to be erected on Land granted by the Corporation of Liverpool, in Newsham Park.

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Donations may be paid to A. Heywood, Sons, & Co., Bankers, Liverpool; Barclay, Bevan, & Co., London; to James Beazley, Liverpool; R. Alexander, Treasurer; or to RALPH BROCKLEBANK, President. [227

LIFEBOAT SERVICES.—During

the Storms of the past year the National Lifeboat Institution contributed to the saving of 784 lives from various shipwrecks and 21 vessels from destruction. It has now 225 Lifeboat Stations under its management. Contributions are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received by Messrs. Willis & Co., Coutts & Co., Herries & Co., by all the other London and Country bankers, and by the Secretary, RICHARD LEWIS, Esq., at the Institution, 14, John-street, Adelphi, London. [228

HOMELESS BOYS OF LONDON, REFUGES FOR HOMELESS AND DESTITUTE CHILDREN, and "CHICHESTER" TRAINING SHIP.

Upwards of 500 Boys and Girls are now being supported in these Refuges and Ship.

Owing to the benevolent and praiseworthy exertions which have for several months been made to aid the sick and wounded in the present war, the funds for the support of these Refuges and Ship have decreased considerably.

An URGENT APPEAL is therefore made for assistance to support the inmates.

£15 will keep a boy or girl for one year, and £1 5s. for a month.

Contributions thankfully received by the London and Westminster Bank, 214, High Holborn, W.C., and 41, Lothbury, E.C., and by

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226] HENRY ALLBUTT, Secretary.

CAUTION. — BETT'S PATENT CAPSULES.

The Public are respectfully Cautioned that BETT'S PATENT CAPSULES are being INFRINGED by importations from abroad. Betts' Name is upon every Capsule he makes for leading Merchants at home and abroad.

1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, April 8, 1868.
And Bordeaux, France. [252

MECHI'S DRESSING BAGS and

Dressing Cases, Despatch Boxes, Tourists' Writing Cases, Jewel Cases, Writing Desks, Parisian productions, Library Sets in Mediæval and Leather, Albums, Cases of fine Cutlery, Scissors, Razors, Table Knives, the Magic Razor Strop and Paste.—At MECHI'S, 112, Regent-street, W. Illustrated Catalogues post free. Established 1827. City prices charged for cash. N.B.—Mr. Mechi attends personally, daily, assisted by his Son. [249

THE GREAT CENTRAL STEAM POWER DYEING AND CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT.

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JOSEPH HARRIS, Proprietor.

The above are the largest and most complete Dye Works in the Midland Counties. [445

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Gentleman, many years tormented with Corns, will be happy to afford others the information by which he obtained their COMPLETE REMOVAL in a short period, without pain or any inconvenience.—Forward address, on a stamped envelope, to F. Kingston, Esq., Church-street, Ware, Herts. [238

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THEATRES, complete, ready for acting, with scenes, characters, lamps, and slides. Ali Baba, 2s. 6d.; Cinderella, 2s. 6d.; Bombastes Furioso, 3s. 6d.; Waterman, 6s.; Richard I., 9s.; Robin Hood, 9s.; Miller and his Men, 12s.—H. G. CLARKE and Co., 2, Garrick-street, Covent-garden.

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of Laughter.—These wonderful animals go through their extraordinary evolutions, daily. The pair sent post free for 14 stamps.—H. G. CLARKE and Co., 2, Garrick-street, Covent-garden.

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THE LITTLE MODELLER.—How

to Make a Model Village, 48 coloured engravings, post free for seven stamps; Windsor Castle, seven stamps; a Model Farm, seven stamps; a Model Railway, seven stamps; a Swiss Cottage, seven stamps.—H. G. CLARKE and Co., 2, Garrick-street, Covent-garden.

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curious cards will make any person using them reveal their greatest secrets. They defy detection, and cause great amusement. Post free for 13 stamps.—H. G. CLARKE and Co., 2, Garrick-street, Covent-garden. [230

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1836.

Subscribed Capital, £2,500,000, in 50,000 shares of £50 each.

Paid-up Capital, £1,000,000. Reserve Fund, £500,000.

DIRECTORS.

Nathaniel Alexander, Esq.
Thos. Tyringham Bernard, Esq.
Philip Patton Blyth, Esq.
John William Burmester, Esq.
Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq.
Frederick Francis, Esq.
Frederick Harrison, Esq.
Lord Alfred Hervey.
William Champion Jones, Esq.
Edward Harbord Lushington, Esq.
James Morley, Esq.
William Nicol, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—William McKewan, Esq.

CHIEF INSPECTOR—W. J. Norfolk, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES—H. J. Lemon, Esq., and C. Sherring, Esq.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT—James Gray, Esq.

SECRETARY—F. Clappison, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—21, LOMBARD-STREET.

MANAGER—Whitbread Tomson, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER—William Howard, Esq.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors, held on THURSDAY, the 2nd February, 1871, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street Station, the following Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1870, was read by the Secretary,

WILLIAM CHAMPION JONES, Esq., in the Chair.

The Directors in submitting to the Proprietors the Balance Sheet of the Bank for the Half-year ending the 31st December last, have the satisfaction to report, that after paying interest to customers and all charges, allowing for rebate, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits amount to £87,167 16s. 4d. This sum added to £7,181 4s. 4d. brought from the last account produces a total of £94,349 0s. 8d.

The usual dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year is recommended, together with a bonus of 3 per cent., both free of income tax, which will absorb £90,000, and leave £4,349 0s. 8d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account. The present dividend and bonus, added to the June payment, will be 17½ per cent. for the year 1870.

The Directors retiring by rotation are:—William Nicol, Esq., Thomas Tyringham Bernard, Esq., and Nathaniel Alexander, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The dividend and bonus (together £1 16s. per share), free of income tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, the 13th instant.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY,

DR. 31st December, 1870.

To Capital paid up		£1,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		500,000 0 0
Amount due by the Bank for customers' balances, &c.	£13,396,251 11 1	
Liabilities on acceptances, covered by securities	3,110,121 18 5	16,506,373 9 6
Profit and loss balance brought from last account	7,181 4 4	
Gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, viz. ...	255,157 13 6	262,338 17 10
		£18,268,712 7 4

CR.

By Cash on hand at Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	£1,995,283 17 10	
Cash placed at call and at notice, covered by securities	1,672,294 2 2	£3,667,578 0 0
Investments, viz.:		
Government and guaranteed stocks	1,399,882 0 0	
Other stocks and securities	83,542 15 2	1,483,424 15 2
Discounted bills, and advances to customers in town and country	9,607,534 5 4	
Liabilities of customers for drafts accepted by the bank (as per contra)	3,110,121 18 5	12,717,656 3 9
Freehold premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, freehold and leasehold property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings		247,649 0 0
Interest paid to customers		48,521 19 9
Salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income-tax on profits and salaries		103,882 8 8
		£18,268,712 7 4

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To interest paid to customers, as above...	£48,521 19 9
Expenses do. ...	103,882 8 8
Rebate on bills not due, carried to new account	15,585 8 9
Dividend of 6 per cent. for half-year...	60,000 0 0
Bonus of 3 per cent.	30,000 0 0
Balance carried forward	4,349 0 8
	£262,338 17 10
By balance brought forward from last account	£7,181 4 4
Gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	255,157 13 6
	£262,338 17 10

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) WM. JARDINE, WILLIAM NORMAN, R. H. SWAINE, } Auditors.

London and County Bank, Jan. 26, 1871.

The foregoing report having been read by the Secretary, the following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.
2. That a Dividend of 6 per Cent., together with a Bonus of 3 per Cent., both free of income tax, be declared for the half-year ending the 31st December, 1870, payable on or after Monday, the 13th instant, and that the balance of £4,349 0s. 8d. be carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account.
3. That William Nicol, Thomas Tyringham Bernard, and Nathaniel Alexander, Esquires, be re-elected Directors of this Company.
4. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.
5. That William Jardine, William Norman, and Richard Hinds Swaine, Esquires, be elected Auditors for the current year, and that the thanks of this meeting be presented to them for their services during the past year.
6. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the General Manager, and to all the other officers of the Bank, for the zeal and ability with which they have discharged their respective duties.

(Signed) W. CHAMPION JONES, Chairman.

The Chairman having quitted the chair, it was resolved, and carried unanimously:—

7. That the cordial thanks of this meeting be presented to William Champion Jones, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the chair.

(Signed) WILLIAM NICOL, Deputy-Chairman.

Extracted from the Minutes.

(Signed) F. CLAPPISON, Secretary.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the capital of the Company, at the rate of 6 per cent. for the half-year ending 31st Debember, 1870, with a bonus of 3 per cent., will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's branch banks, on or after Monday, the 13th inst.

By Order of the Board,

W. McKEWAN, General Manager.

21, Lombard-street, Feb. 3, 1871.

INDIGESTION.—The Medical Profession

adopt Morson's Preparation of PEPSINE as the true remedy.—Sold in bottles and boxes from 2s. by all Pharmaceutical Chemists and the Manufacturers.—THOS. MORSON & SON, 124, Southampton Row, Russell Square, London [845

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price."—ISAIAH, lv. i.

CONSUMPTION, ASTHMA, BRONCHIAL DISEASES, STOMACH, and LIVER COMPLAINTS,—CURED GRATIS!!

No money, stamps, or any equivalent whatever accepted. As effectually as water quenches thirst, so can these diseases be eradicated by the RECIPE which will be forwarded on receipt of stamped envelope.—Address, Rev. J. D'ALMAINE, Bloomsbury House, Manchester.

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W. and J. TAYLOR'S celebrated ANTI-EPILEPTIC MEDICINE effects a speedy and permanent cure of this dreadful disease. It is perfectly harmless, and has a wonderful power of soothing and allaying that irritation and excitement so incidental to epileptics. Bottles, 3s. 6d. each.—W. and J. Taylor, 74, Brunswick-street, Hackney-road, London (E.); or by order of any chemist. [250

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contain an immense amount of new information, changes, &c. Prices:—(1) DEBRETT'S ILLUSTRATED PEERAGE, and (2) DEBRETT'S ILLUSTRATED BARONETAGE, with KNIGHTAGE, bound in cloth, gilt, 9s. each; half-calf, 12s.; cloth, bevelled boards, 10s. 6d.; or the two volumes bound as one, half-leather, gilt edges, 17s. 6d. Office, Dean and Sons, 65, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

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the Author of "Pure Dentistry, and What it Does for Us," "Painless Tooth Extraction; or, Anæsthesia Locally Applied," "Dental Surgery; a Practical Treatise," "Modern Dentistry; its Principles and Practice," &c., may be CONSULTED DAILY, as hitherto, from ten to four o'clock, at his residence, 8, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square (a few doors from Bond-street).

N.B.—The above works may be obtained of SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & Co., Stationers' Hall-court; of all Booksellers; or of the Author, post free for 7 stamps each. [231

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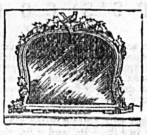

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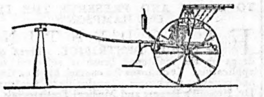

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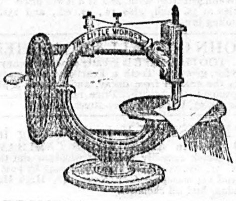
BOTH SIDES ALIKE, £3 3s.



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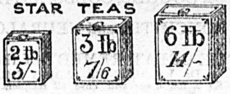

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PREPARED GROATS. PREPARED BARLEY.	For making pure Gruel and Barley Water in Ten Minutes, without the trouble of straining, in 3d. and 6d. packets, and 1s. canisters.
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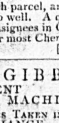

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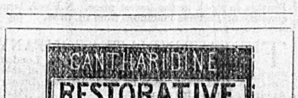

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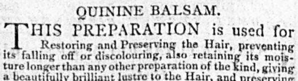

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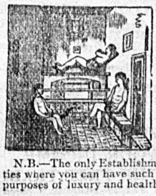

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MISS MELLING, *Superintendent of the Ladies' Department.* [909

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THURSDAY, February 16th; and on
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SCHOFIELD AND JORDAN,
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'Twas lovely and did shine;
I'll go and get another,
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